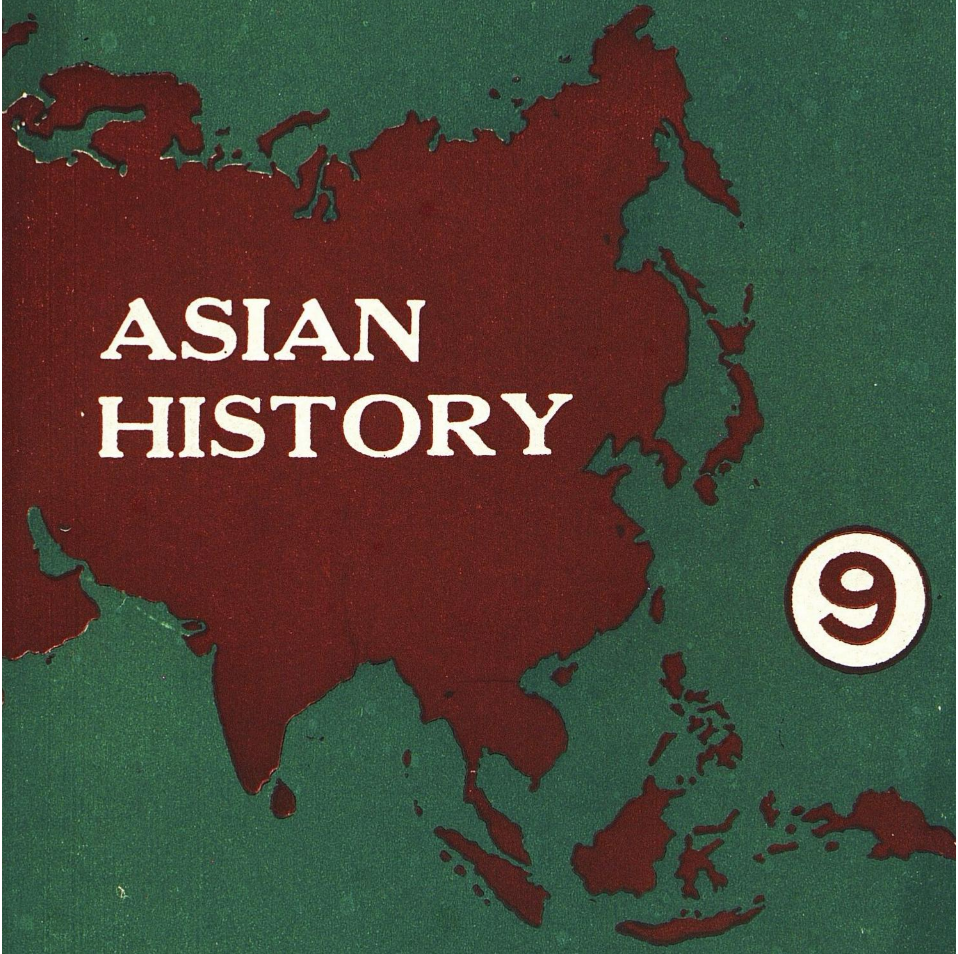
ASIAN HISTORY



9

Tamil Nadu Textbook Society

ASIAN HISTORY

STANDARD IX

Untouchability is a sin
Untouchability is a crime
Untouchability is inhuman

Tamil Nadu Textbook Society

MADRAS

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Authors :

Thiru C. Srinivasan
Headmaster,
Raja Muthiah Higher Secondary School,
Raja Annamalaipuram,
Madras.

Thiru G. Ranganathan
Madurai Diraviam Thayumanavar Hindu College Higher Secondary School,
Tirunelveli.

Price: Rs. 1-90

Reviewers :

Prof. M. V. **Subramaniam**
Sripuram Extention,
Tirunelveli

Thiru **T. K. Rajagopalan**
Headmaster,
Government Higher Secondary School,
Padalur, Trichy District.

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CONTENTS

Bear in mind that the wonderful things you learn in your schools are the work of many generations produced by enthusiastic effort and infinite labour in every country of the world. All this is put into your hands as you inheritance in order that you may receive it, honour it, add to it, and one day faithfully hand it on to your children. Thus we do achieve immortality in the permanent things which we create in common.

— ALBERT EINSTEIN

1. ASIA

Introduction

According to scholars "Geography and chronology are the two eyes of history" The geography of a country affects its history. Historical incidents can be properly evaluated only if we know the chronological data. Hence, before we study the history of the Asian continent, it is essential to know the important geographical details of that continent. In this lesson, we shall study about them.

General Information

Asia is the largest of all the continents in the world. It spreads nearly over one third of the land on the Globe. The majority of the world's population is found in Asia. The **Himalayas**, the world's highest mountain, its peak, **Everest**, and the high plateau **Tibet** are found in Asia. Further in Asia, are to be found the coldest lands in the world as well as the hottest. The areas of maximum density of population and low density of population are also found in Asia. The world's maximum rain receiver **Sirapunji** and the world's coldest place **Verkhoyansk** are in Asia. The fertile areas which contain alluvial soil and areas not fit for any cultivation, are also found here. In Asia, Petroleum is available in large quantities. These are some of the special features of Asia.

Physical features

Asia can be divided into four main physical divisions. They are:

(1) The Northern lowlands, which comprise Siberia and bordered in the North by the Arctic Ocean.

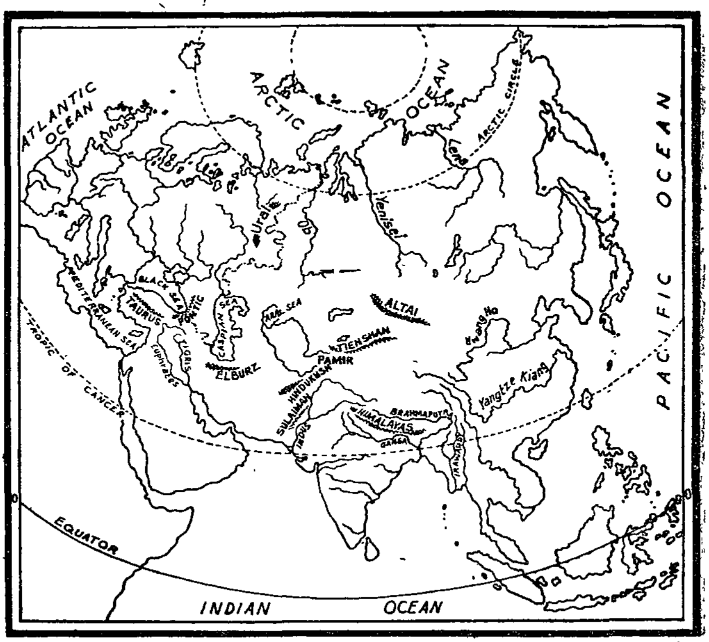


Fig. 1. Asia—Physical Features

(2) The Central fold mountains and plateaus.

(3) The Plateaus of the south such as Yunan, Indo-China, Arabia and Peninsular India and

(4) The great river valleys - the fertile Indus and the Ganges basin, the Irawaddy basin, and the Euphrates the Tigris basin - which lie in between the fold mountains and the plateaus.

The Asian mountains start from the Pamir Plateau and spread in all directions. All the mountains form a knot in Pamir and hence it is called the **Pamir Knot.** The Tibetan plateau is called the **Roof of the world**. It is 3,600 metres above the sea level. Since it is the highest plateau, it is called by the above name.

The mountains of Asia are situated in the centre of the continent. The rivers start from these mountains and run in various directions and finally reach the Arctic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, the Indian Ocean and the Aral Sea. The rivers Ob, Yenesei and Lena merge with the Arctic Ocean. As these rivers flow towards the cold north, their course is frozen nearly nine months in the year and hence there is no considerable benefit from them. The Hawang-Ho, the Yang-tse-Kiang rivers merge with the Pacific Ocean. The former frequently changes its direction and causes considerable loss of lives and materials. So, the river is called the 'China's Sorrow'. The Indus, the Ganges and the Brahmaputra rivers start from the Himalayas and flow into the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal. These rivers are useful for agriculture. The Euphrates and the Tigris rivers merge with the Persian Gulf.

Population

The population of Asia is as large as its extent. The fertile regions of Asia are more in the South than in the North ; hence the population is more dense in the south than in the north. From the recently conducted census, it is believed that in 2,000 A.D. the population of Asia will be more than two thirds of the world population. China ranks first and India second in the matter of population figures.

Historical importance of the continent

Asia occupies a prominent place in the History of the World. Four important races of the world such as the Dravidians, the Aryans, the Mangolians, and the Semites are seen in Asia. These people have contributed to the growth of world civilization. The Sumerian civilization, the Dravidian Civilization, the Indus Valley Civilization, the Yellow river Civilization and the Aryan Civilization sprang up in Asia. Further in ancient times, even before the birth of Christ, Empires were ably administered in Asia. Among them, the Assyrian, the Babylonian and the Mauryan empires were important. We shall read about them in subsequent chapters. Almost all the world religions have their birth places only in Asia. They are Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Judaism, Christianity, Zoroastrianism and Islam. We thus see that Asia occupies an important place in the history of the world. We really feel a glow of pride that our country, India, is a part of this historic continent.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. ________ is the highest peak. It is in ________.
2. ________ is the maximum rain receiver in the world.
3. World's coldest place is ________.
4. The Ganges and the Brahmaputra start from ________.

II. Give short answers

1. Write a short note on the 'Roof of the world'.
2. Write a short note on the 'China's Sorrow'.
3. Name the civilizations that sprang up in Asia.
4. What were the ancient empires of Asia ?

III. Give long answers

1. Describe the physical features of Asia.
2. What are the special features of Asia ?

Exercise

On the outline map of Asia mark the following

1. Important mountains
2. Important rivers
3. Areas having dense population.

2. RIVER VALLEY CIVILIZATIONS

Introduction

We learn from river valley civilizations, how geography affects history. We see that all ancient civilizations of the world sprang up mainly in the river valleys. The reasons for the growth of civilizations in the river valleys are as follows :

The river water was used for drinking purposes. It helped the growth of grasslands for the cattle. It contributed to the fertility of the soil and made it easy for people to cultivate grains. The rivers were used for transport. So, people settled in river valleys permanently and stopped wandering from place to place. In the river valleys all things were obtained without much effort. So, people had leisure enough to make them think freely and find out better ways of living. Thus civilizations grew up in the river valleys which are rightly called the **Cradles of Civilization.**

Sumerian Civilization

Civilization sprang up in the Euphrates-Tigris valley due to its fertility. This region is called as **Mesopotomia. Mespot** means the land between the two rivers. This land

was inhabited by a people called the **Sumerians.** They built cities in this region and lived there. The most important cities were **Ur** and **Nippur**. The people of the cities were very often quarrelling with one another.

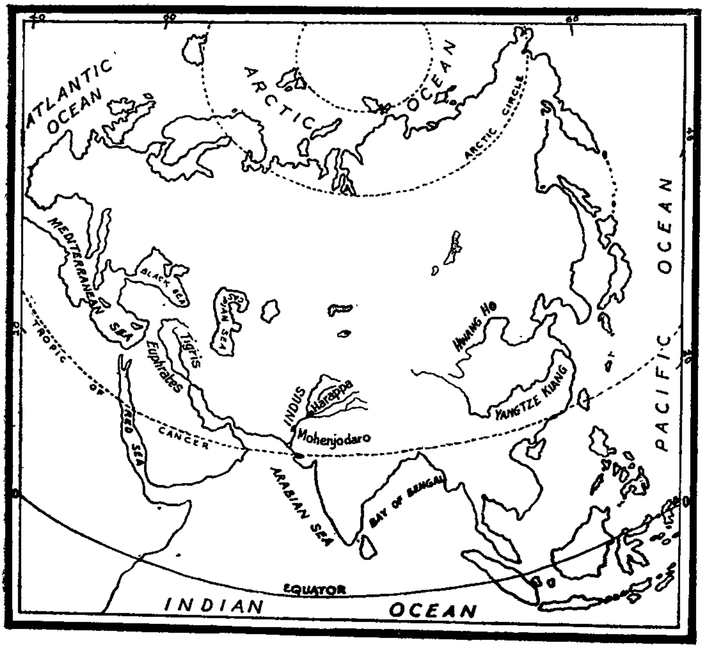


Fig. 2. Asia—River Valley Civilizations

Historians are of opinion that this civilization might have sprung up by about 4,000 B.C. The Sumerians used river water for agriculture. They dug canals for irrigating the lands. They traded with other places by making use of boats in canals. The Sumerians were the first to use wheeled carts for transport.

From their writings, we are able to note the high level of the Sumerian civilization. The letters were wedge-shaped and were called **Cuneiform.** Like the Egyptians, the Sumerians invented a calendar for their use. The Sumerian month had 29 days only.

There were divisions in Sumerian society. The topmost class consisted of lords and priests. The slaves formed the last class. The Sumerians built houses with burnt bricks. The temples and storeyed buildings were also constructed by bricks. Since they lived in the plains, they were in a position to use clay for making beautiful pottery and utensils.

The Sumerians set up city-states. Each city-state was governed by a king. The people had high regard for the priests and they in turn maintained their prestige. In some places the same person was both the king and the priest. In later years, the power of the priests declined and that of the king increased.

The Sumerians used water for irrigation by collecting river water in lakes. They knew the use of the copper metal. They drove the chariots with horses. They stored grain when it was in excess and utilised it in times of need. They took care to cultivate the lands. Heavy fines were imposed on land lords who neglected their lands. They issued receipts for the purchase of materials. They were experts in commerce and they appear to have used **seals** for the materials.

The Sumerians worshipped a number of gods. They worshipped mainly **Enlil,** the Earth God. They built a tall tower called **Ziggurat.** The Sumerians like the Egyptians believed in life after death. That is why the dead were buried along with the things they used while alive.

Sumeria was conquered by the **Amorites** but they too adopted the Sumerian civilization only.

Indus Valley Civilization

Until quite recently, people were inclined to believe that Indian History started with the entry of Aryans into India. But in 1922 A.D., Dr. R. D. Banerjee under the leadership of Sir John Marshall conducted archaeological researches and discovered the ruins of two cities, **Mohenjo-daro,** on the right bank of the Indus in the Larkhana district in Sind and **Harappa** in the Montgomery district in the Punjab. It was discovered that this civilization was at its highest peak during the period of Sumerian and Egyptian civilizations. Recently ruins of this civilization have been discovered in **Gujarat** and **Rajasthan** also.

Mohenjo-daro was laid out on a well defined plan. Streets were wide and straight and the cross streets were also uniform. The houses were built with burnt bricks. They differed in dimensions. Each house had its bath room and drains. The rooms of the houses were in good shape. There were houses with several storeys. The roofs of the houses were made of wood.

The Great Bath or **The Great Tank** was at the centre of the town. By the side of the tank, there were rows of bath-rooms. There were arrangements to let in water to the tank and to let out water from the tank.

There were street lights on the roads. From the excellent sanitation and living conditions, we are able to realise the high civic sense of the Indus Valley people.

The Indus Valley people took wheat, barley, milk and rice for their food. They ate fruits, vegetables, fish and meat. They used cloth made of cotton and wool. Women wore ornaments made of gold, silver, copper and brass. Hunting was their main recreation. Their occupation was catching fish and it was their pastime also. They did not know the use of iron. Generally, they liked to lead a peaceful

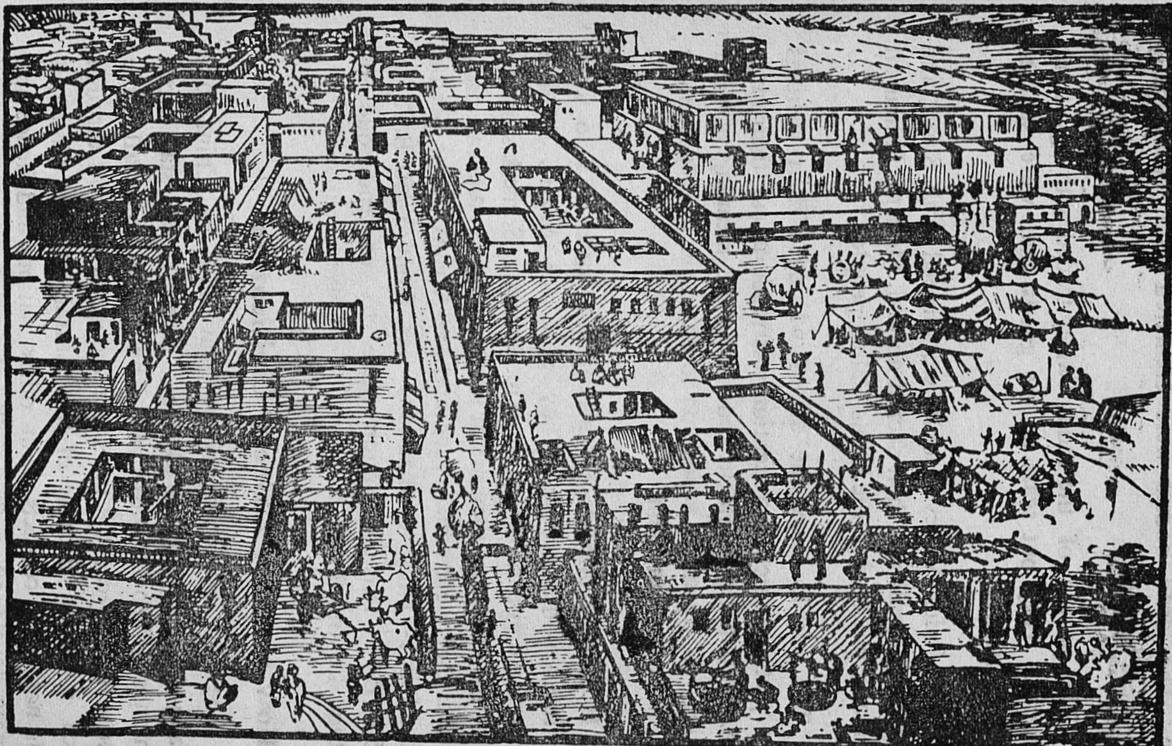


Fig. 3. *Mohenjo-daro City Planning*

life. The dead bodies were cremated and occasionally they were buried.

The people of the Indus Valley traded with Egypt and Sumeria. They put seals on the goods that were sent to foreign countries.

The Indus Valley people worshipped both Shiva and Sakthi. The bull was their sacred animal. Modern Hinduism is greatly indebted to the Indus Valley people.

The people knew the art of writing. Their writings were pictographic. No mention was made about their language. It is not possible to understand the meaning of their writing. If we are in a position to do so, we can get more information about them.

It is very difficult to answer the question who were the Indus Valley people. They were not Aryans because the Aryan civilization was rural in character. Some historians are of the view that they might be Dravidians. We can only say that they were non-Aryans and pre-Aryans. The period of the Indus Valley civilizations was from 3,250 B.C. to 2,750 B.C. This civilization came to an end due to earthquake and floods.

Yellow river or Chinese Civilization

The two important rivers that flow in China are **Hwang-Ho** and **Yang-tse kiyang.** These rivers start from highlands and flow towards east. The Hwang-ho is called the **Yellow River** because it takes the colour of the soil through which it flows. Because of the natural set up of China, it could not have contacts with other nations and hence the Chinese developed a fine civilization of their own.

The Chinese belonged to the Mongolian race. It seems that this civilization sprang up in 2,000 B.C. The Chinese legends are useful to know about their civilization. Though the available archaeological materials are meagre, they had written their history continuously and in the best manner. According to the Chinese legends, the kings ruled China from 3,000 B.C. History was written continuously from the rule of the **Shang** dynasty in the Yellow River valley. They made the people united. After this, **Chou** dynasty ruled China. They invented the method of making glass. **Confucius,** a great philosopher, lived during this period. Like the Buddha, he gave his teachings to the people and they go by the name of **Confucianism**. After the Chou dynasty, **Chin** dynasty ruled China. The rule of this dynasty was important though they ruled only for a short period. **Shi-Hwang-Ti** was the famous king of this dynasty. He abolished the rule of lords. He was the first king to call himself as 'The Great King'. He built the **Great Wall of China** to protect the country from foreign invasions. It is 2,880 km long, 6.6m high and 6m wide. It is one of the wonders of world.

The main occupation of the Chinese was agriculture. Millet was their main crop. Later they cultivated wheat and rice. They dug canals for agriculture. They knew the art of carpentry. They used bamboos for building houses. They used iron materials. The Chinese were experts in making articles with china-clay. They wore clothes made of cotton. They invented the method of making paper. They made paper with the help of wooden fibres and plant stems Tobacco was introduced by the Chinese to the world. They knew how to rear the silk worms and make silk clothes.

Chinese writing was pictographic. First they wrote on surface of the bamboo and then on silk clothes. They were



Fig.4. The Great wall of China

experts in painting. They used the brush made of camel's hair for painting. They followed the worship of their ance-



Fig. 5. Chinese Letters

stors but they did not construct any building for the dead persons. They used both water clock and sun clock.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. Sumerian writing is known as __________.
2. The two important city-states of the Sumerians were __________, __________.
3. __________ was the main god of the Sumerians.
4. __________ is an urban civilization.
5. __________ is called the Yellow River.
6. __________ built the Great Wall of China.

II. Give Short answers

1. Why did ancient civilizations spring up in river valleys ?
2. Write short notes on '**Cueniform** Writing '.
3. What is the meaning of 'Mesopotomia' ?
4. Mention the important inventions of the Chinese.
5. Write short notes on the ' Great Wall of China '.

III. Give long answers

1. What are the salient features of the Sumerian Civilization ?
2. Give an account of the Indus Valley Civilization.
3. Write an essay on the Yellow River Civilization.

Exercise

Draw a map of Asia to indicate the River Valley Civilizations.

3. ARYANS

Introduction

India's wealth and fertile soil attracted many people from foreign lands. From ancient days many people came to India to settle permanently or to establish empires. Among those who came from outside to settle permanently in India the Aryans were the first.

Original Home

There are differences of opinion regarding the original home of the Aryans. According to the German Scholar **Max Muller,** Central Asia was the original home of the Aryans and from there they moved in different directions and settled in various countries. One branch of the Aryans entered India through the Khyber and Bolan Passes. But **Bala Gangadara Tilak** regards the Arctic region as the original home of the Aryans. He gives evidence from the Vodas for this.

Aryan settlement in India

All the Aryans did not settle in India at the same time. They came to India in batches. They settled at first in the

Punjab and later spread into the Gangetic plains. The area where they lived was called **Aryavartha.**

We learn from the Vedas the life of the Aryans. The word **Vedas** means 'knowledge'. There are four Vedas namely **Rig, Yajur, Sama** and **Atharvana.** Following the Vedas, two great epics such as the 'Ramayana' and the 'Mahabharatha' were produced.

Aryan Civilization

The Aryans settled in groups of families. The head of each family was the father. He took charge of all the responsibilities of the family. Women did a lot of work in the family. They participated in the sacrifices performed by their husbands. They occupied an honourable position in society. Some of them were very learned. The two assemblies such as **Sabha** and **Samiti** helped the king to carry on the administration.

The main food of the Aryans consisted of wheat barley and milk. The people had both vegetarian and non-vegetarian food and drank Soma and Sura juices. They wore clothes made of wool and cotton. Ornaments were worn by both men and women.

The Aryans at first feared Nature, then admired it and finally worshipped Nature. Their important Gods were **Agni, Varuna,** and **Indira.** Later they worshipped **Brahma, Vishnu** and **Siva.**

In the beginning there were no caste distinctions among the Aryans. When the Aryans migrated to the Gangetic plain the caste system came into being. People came to be divided into four castes according to their occupations but gradually caste came to be based upon birth.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. According to the generally accepted view, the original home of the Aryans was ________.
2. ________ is called as 'Aryavartha'.
3. The caste system at first was based upon ________.

II. Give short answers

1. How many Vedas were there ? Name them.
2. What are the two great Epics ?
3. Name the two assemblies that helped the king during the Vedic period.

III. Give long answers

Write an essay on 'Aryan Civilization'.

Exercise

1. On the map of India mark the route of the Aryans.
2. Learn the stories of the 'Ramayana' and the 'Mahabharatha' and stage some incidents from the Epics.

4. JAINISM AND BUDDHISM

Introduction

In the 6th Century B.C. great religious leaders were born in North India. Great men began to think of **birth, death** and **moksha.** This helped the rice of new religions like **Jainism** and **Buddhism.**

Causes for the rise of Jainism and Buddhism

During the Vedic period, sacrifices were conducted in Sanskrit. It was not possible for the common man to understand them. Sacrifices increased the influence of the priests. This was not liked by many. Further, in some Vedic ceremo

nies, animals were offered as sacrifices. This too was objected to by the people. These were the causes for the rise of Jainism and Buddhism in our country.

JAINISM

The founder of Jainism was **Mahavira.** His real name was **Vardhamana.** It is said that he lived from 599 to 527 B.C. After some years of married life, he led the life of an ascetic. To remove the worries and sufferings of the people, he said that people should lead a good life and follow the principle of Ahimsa. His teachings are called **Tri Ratnas** They are **Right Faith, Right Knowledge** and **Right Conduct** According to him, dying by voluntary starvation was the best. He believed in Re-birth. By means of severe penances, one can avoid Re-birth. He did not believe in the existence of God. His teachings are non-stealing, non-injury, detachment from worldly things and self-control. But he accepted principles of Karma and Re-birth.

BUDDHISM

Career of the Buddha

The founder of Buddhism was **Siddhartha** or **Gautama Buddha.** It is said that he was born at Kapilavastu in 563 B.C. As a prince, he led some years of married life, and then became an ascetic like Mahavira. He wanted to remove all the evils of worldly life. He met elderly persons and at the end he got enlightenment in Gaya. He was then called as the **Buddha** and the religion that was founded by him is called Buddhism.

His teachings are based upon discipline. The religion founded by him is easy to follow. He did not preach severe ascetic life like Mahavira. He died at the age of 80.

His teachings

Life is full of misery. Misery is caused by desire. To overcome desire, people should follow the Eight fold Path which consists of 1. Right belief, 2. Right aim, 3. Right speech, 4. Right action, 5. Right endeavour, 6. Right living, 7. Right mindedness, and 8. Right meditation. He opposed the caste system and did not talk about God. He had faith in re-birth. If a person was free from the circle of death and birth, then he is said to have attained the state of **Nirvana**. Like Mahavira, he preached Ahimsa or Non-injury. His disciples and the kings of that time spread this religion in foreign countries. During the reign of Ashoka it became a world religion.

Transformation of Buddhism

After six centuries, that is in the first century A.D. during Kanishka's time, a great change took place in Buddhism. The original form of religion **Hinayana** or **Lesser Vehicle** was replaced by a new form known as **Mahayana or Greater Vehicle.** In Hinayanism, the Buddha was considered both as the head of religion and the preacher. But in Mahayanism, he was considered as God. Buddhist Saints were called the **Bodisatvas.** Temples were built for the Buddha and ceremonies and festivals were conducted.

Results of the two religions

We shall now see the effects of the rise of Buddhism and Jainism in our country. Some of the defects of Hinduism were abolished due to these religions. Hinduism was purified. The evils of the caste system were reduced to some extent. There was growth of architecture as a result of the construction of the Buddhist Viharas and Monastries. Gandhara Sculpture was developed in Kanishka's time by the intermingling of Indian and Greek art.

Decline of Buddhism in India – Causes

With the efforts of kings like **Asoka** and **Kanishka** Buddhism spread to countries outside India and became a world religion. But it began to decline in India. We shall discuss the causes for its decline. Hinduism was revived and became a powerful religion. The lack of royal patronage after Asoka and Kanishka was also a cause for its decline. Buddhist monastries in course of time became centres of corruption. The idol worship of Mahayanism was a Hindu practice and hence there was no difference between Buddhism and Hinduism. Hinduism absorbed almost all the principles of Buddhism. The Guptas and the Rajaputs patronised Hinduism. The preachings of the three great Hindu Acharyas like **Sankara, Ramanuja** and **Madhwa** and the **Nayanmars** and **Alwars** were responsible for the revival of Hinduism. Hence, Hinduism began to spread well in India and Buddhism gradually disappeared.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. The original name of the Buddha was ______. He was born at ______.
2. The original name of Mahavira was ______.
3. The two divisions of Buddhism are ______, ______
4. The new form of sculpture that was formed during Kanishka's timew as ______.
5. The Gandhara sculpture was a combination of ______ and ______ arts.

II. Give short answers

1. What were the teachings of Mahavira ?
2. What were the teachings of the Buddha ?
3. What is meant by Mahayanism and Hinayanism ?
4. What were the effects of Buddhism and Jainism ?
5. What are the causes for the decline of Buddhism in India?

III. Give long answers

1. Write the life history of the Buddha and his teachings.
2. Write the life history of Mahavira and his teachings.

Exercise

1. On the map of Asia, mark the Buddhist countries.
2. Stage the dramas depicting the life history of the Buddha and Mahavira.

5. ANCIENT EMPIRES IN WESTERN ASIA

Introduction

The South West part of Asia has historical importance. It was there that many empires rose and declined in ancient times. It was the birth place of religions such as Zoroastrianism, Christianity and Islam. The crusades took place in that part of Asia in the Middle Ages. In the Modern Age the European Power Blocs compete with one another to set up their influence there. After the discovery of oil-fields, the wealth of South West Asia has increased. At present due to Arab-Israel conflict and the indirect intervention of the Power Blocs in that area, the land of South West Asia has become a land of conflict. We shall now study about the Ancient Empires of that strategic area where the continents of Asia, Africa and Europe meet.

THE ASSYRIAN EMPIRE

We have learnt that the land of the two great rivers, Tigri's and Euphrates, is called 'Mesopotamia' and that 'Mesopot' means land between two rivers. The hilly region to the north-east of Mesopotamia was known in ancient times as **Assur** and later as **Assyria**. It is uncertain who first inhabited it. By 3000 B.C. a Semitic tribe had settled in

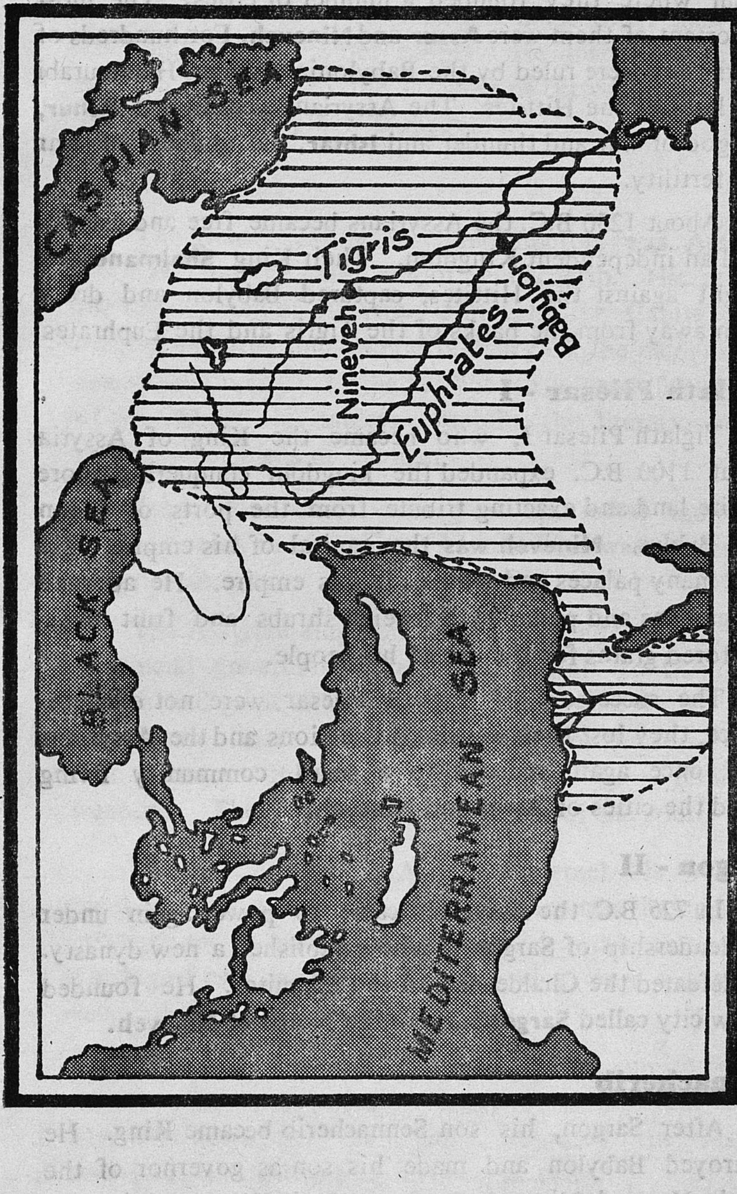


Fig. 6. Assyrian Empire

Assur where they founded a number of cities. The most important of them were **Assur** and **Nineveh**. For hundreds of years they were ruled by the Babylonians under Hammurabi and later by the Hittites. The Assyrians worshipped **Ashur,** the god of war and thunder and **Ishtar,** the goddess of war and fertility.

About 1250 B.C. the Assyrians became free and established an independent Kingdom. Their King **Shalmaneser I** fought against the Hittites, captured Babylon and drove them away from the banks of the Tigris and the Euphrates

Tiglath Pilesar - I

Tiglath Pilesar I, who became the King of Assyria about 1100 B.C. expanded the kingdom conquering more Hittite land and exacting tribute from the ports of Sidon and Byblus. **Nineveh** was the capital of his empire. He built many palaces and temples in his empire. He adorned the gardens and parks with foreign shrubs and fruit trees. He stored grains for the use of his people.

The successors of Tiglath Pilesar were not efficient. Hence, they lost their western possessions and the Assyrians were once again reduced to a small community living round the cities of Assur and Nineveh.

Sargon - II

In 725 B.C. the Assyrians came to power again under the leadership of Sargon II who established a new dynasty. He defeated the Chaldeans and the Elamites. He founded a new city called **Sargonburg** to the North of Nineveh.

Sennacherib

After Sargon, his son Sennacherib became King. He destroyed Babylon and made his son as governor of the South. He made Nineveh the finest city in Western Asia. The

streets of Nineveh were relaid and made wider than before. He improved its water supply. He introduced a postal service. He started the growing of cotton in his country importing cotton plants from India.

Assurbanipal

The greatest of the Assyrian Emperors was Assurbanipal. He was the grand son of Sennacherib. His reign was the Golden Age of Assyria. Nineveh, the Capital of his empire, was the most important city of the day. It was a cosmopolitan city. He had at Nineveh a magnificent library of over 22,000 clay tablets containing the literary, scientific and religious ideas of the age.

Trade flourished, banks grew up, metal lumps were used as coins in his reign. Assurbanipal was the last great Assyrian Emperor.

The Assyrian emperors had unlimited powers. Their provincial governors were very faithful to them. The priests had great influence in the state. The state was run on military lines. The army consisted of chariots, cavalry and infantry. Bow, arrow and lance were their chief weapons. The troops received a part of the spoils of war.

The system of law in Assyria was cruel. It was more cruel than the code of Hammurabi which was based on the principle of 'an eye for an eye' and 'a tooth for a tooth'. Cutting of ears and noses and whipping were regarded as very mild punishments.

After the death of Assurbanipal, the empire began to decline. The provincial governors became independent. The Chaldeans and the Medes captured the Assyrian territories and the empire came to an end.

BABYLONIAN EMPIRE

I. The First Babylonian empire - Amorite empire - Hammurabi

With Babylon as capital, two empires rose in West Asia. They were ruled by two different races. The first was the Amorite Empire and the other was the Chaldean Empire. We have studied in the second lesson that the Sumerians had developed a splendid civilization in the Tigris - Euphrates valley. About 2750 B.C. a race called the **Akkadians**, captured the whole of Sumeria and adopted the Sumerian civilization. As the Sumerian - Akkadian Kingdom declined, about 2,200 B.C. a Semitic race called the **Amorites** established themselves and overthrew the Akkadian - Sumerian kingdom. The greatest of the new rulers of Babylon was **Hammurabi**. His capital was Babylon. Hammurabi's Amorite Empire was the First Babylonian Empire.

Hammurabi conquered the whole of Mesopotamia and Assyria. The country was rich in grain and also in sheep and cattle. The weaving of cloth became an important industry. Hammurabi was a great and able ruler. His notable achievement was the codification of laws. His laws were engraved on a piece of stone, 2½ metres high. At the top of the stone was a sculptured scene representing Hammurabi receiving the law from the Sun-god. The code was written in the Semitic language of the Amorites. The punishments prescribed for offences were very severe. They were based upon the ideas of 'an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth'. There were courts to inquire into crimes. A final appeal could be made to the King alone.

There were many schools in Babylonia. The scholars wrote on slates of soft clay. Astrology and astronomy were highly developed. The priesthood was a powerful and

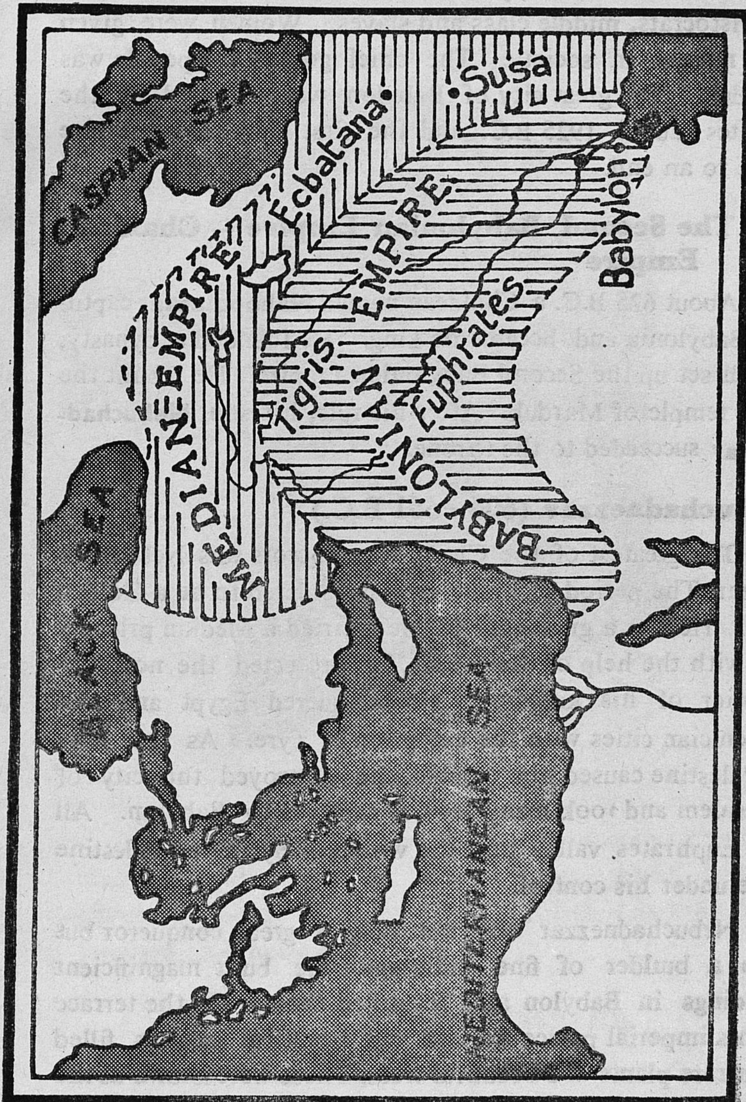


Fig. 7. Babylonian and Median Empires

influential class. Society was divided into three classes such as aristocrats, middle class and slaves. Women were given due respect in society. The chief god of the people was Marduk. The great city of Babylon was captured by the Hittites about 1925 B.C. and the first Babylonian Empire came to an end.

II. The Second Babylonian Empire – Chaldean Empire

About 625 B.C. a Chaldean named **Nabopolasaar** captured Babylonia and became its king. He founded a dynasty, which set up the Second Babylonian Empire. He rebuilt the great temple of Marduk. After his rule, his son, **Nebuchadnezzar** succeeded to the throne.

Nebuchadnezzar (604–561 B.C.)

The greatest of the Chaldean emperors was Nebuchadnezzar. The period of his reign is considered to be a Golden Age. He was a great general. He married a Median princess and with the help of the Medes, he protected the northern frontier of his kingdom. He conquered Egypt and the Phoenician cities with the exception of Tyre. As the Jews of Palestine caused him trouble, he destroyed the city of Jerusalem and took many Jews as captives to Babylon. All the Euphrates valley and the whole of Syria and Palestine were under his control.

Nebuchadnezzar was not only a great conqueror but also a builder of fine buildings. He built magnificient buildings in Babylon and beautified them. On the terrace of his imperial palace he laid out beautiful gardens filled with rare plants and beautiful trees. These were known as the **Hanging Gardens of Babylon.** It is said that these gardens were made in order to please his queen. The fame of these 'Hanging Gardens of Babylon' spread far and wide and the

Greeks regarded them as one of the 'Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.' Trade and commerce flourished in the country; art and science made good progress.

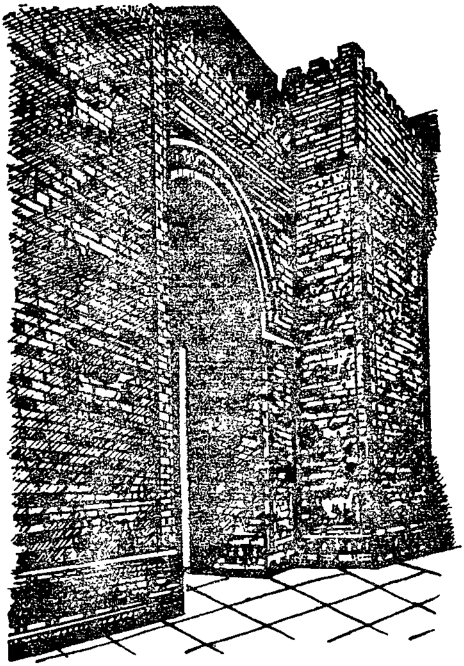


Fig. 8. Babylon City-Gate

Nebuehadnezzar's successors were incompetent and so after his death the empire became weak. About 539 B.C. Cyrus the Great of Persia captured Babylon and the Second Babylonian Empire came to an end.

THE MEDIAN EMPIRE

Between the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf lies the Plateau of Iran. The Medes lived in the north and central parts of the plateau. In the southern part lived the Persians. Both the Medes and the Persians were Aryans.

Deioces (708 – 655 B.C.)

Deioces was the founder of the Median Empire in the 8th century B.C. His Capital was **Ecbatana**. He was noted for his justice and valour. The Medes became great warriors and influential during his reign.

Cyaxares (625 – 593 B.C.)

The greatest of the Median emperors was Cyaxares. He united the Medes into a strong nation. He fought with the Lydians and made the river Halys as his western boundary. On the north he pushed his empire to the Elburz mountain. On the east, Parthia accepted his overlordship. On the South Persia was his vassal.

Astyages (593 – 550 B.C.)

Astyages, the son and successor of Cyaxares, was an incompetent ruler. He was defeated by Cyrus, the king of Persia. Media was annexed to the Persian empire.

PERSIAN EMPIRE

We have seen that the Persians were Aryans like the Medes and lived in the southern part of Iran under the rule of the Medes.

Cyrus the Great (550 – 528 B.C.)

Cyrus was the founder of the Persian Empire and its greatest ruler. He conquered Media, Lydia, Babylonia, Syria and Ionia, the coastal part of Asia Minor inhabited by the Greeks. In 528 B.C. Cyrus was killed in battle.

Cambyses (528 – 521 B.C.)

Cambyses, the son and successor of Cyrus, conquered Egypt.

Darius I (521 – 485 B.C.)

After Cambyses, Darius I became the ruler of the Persian Empire. He invaded Europe and took possession of Thrace. He also invaded India and imposed his rule on Sind and the Punjab. In 499 B.C. the Greeks on the West Coast of Asia Minor rebelled against the Persian rule. The rebels were helped by the Greek City state of Athens. Enraged by the act of Athens, Darius after punishing the Asiatic Greeks

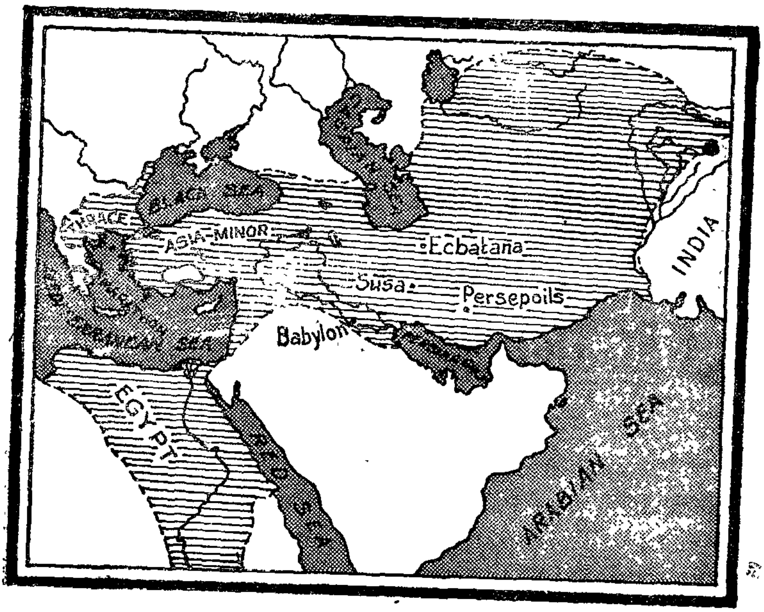


Fig. 9. Persian Empire under Darius I

invaded Greece to punish Athens. But in the battle of **Marathan** in 490 B.C. an Athenian army defeated the Persian army. This victory of Athens, a small City-state of Europe against a large Empire of Asia is an important event in the History of the World. It was the beginning of the military

glory of Europe. In 486 B.C. Darius died leaving to his son, Xerxes, the task of taking revenge on the Greeks.

Administration of the Persian Empire under Darius

Darius was an able organizer. The Persian Empire was divided into 20 provinces or satrapies. The Indian provinces of the Punjab and Sind formed the Twentieth Satrapy. Each satrapy was ruled by a governor called satrap.



Fig. 10. Persepolis Palace

The capital of the Persian Empire was the city of **Susa**. Other cities were Persepolis, Babylon and Pasargadae. In all these cities beautiful palaces were built. Good roads ran from one end to the other end of the empire. There was a postal system. Swift messengers carried messages on foot or riding horse or camel.

The Persians and the Medes followed the religion of Zoroastrianism, which was founded by **Zoroaster** in 6th century B.C. Zoroaster taught that there were two great principles striving for mastery in the world. One is the principle of goodness and light which is represented by the god **Ormuzd** and another is the principle of evil and darkness

which is represented by the god **Ahriman.** Zoroaster declared that people who followed either of the two would be rewarded accordingly. His teachings are contained in the **Zend Avesta,** the Persian Bible. Zoroastrianism is the religion of the Parsees, many of whom live in Bombay.

Xerxes (485 — 465 B.C.)

After becoming king, Xerxes invaded Greece in 480 B.C. with a large army and navy. The Greek army under the leadership of Sparta resisted the advance of the Persian army.

The Spartan King, Leonidas, fought a glorious battle with the Persians at **Thermospylae,** the gateway to the South Greece, but he could not check Persian advance into the South. The Persians burnt Athens, but in the naval battle of **Salamis** in 480 B.C. the Athenian fleet under **Themistocles** destroyed the Persian fleet. Again in the land battle at **Platea** and in the sea battle of **Mycale** in 479 B.C. the Greeks defeated the Persians and they were compelled to retreat from Greece.

Downfall of the Persian Empire

After Xerxes the Persian empire became very weak. When **Darius III** was the Persian Emperor, **Alexander** the king of the Macedonia invaded the Persian Empire. He defeated the Persian armies **in the battles of Issus and Gaugamela or Arbela.** Darius III was killed. Alexander married his only daughter **Statira** and declared himself as the Emperor of Persia or the **Great King.** The Persian Empire became a part of Alexander's empire.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. The Assyrians worshipped ______, the god of war and thunder and ______ the goddess of war and fertility.
2. The chief god of the people of Babylon was ______.
3. Media was conquered by ______, the Persian emperor.
4. The teachings of Zoroaster are found in ______, the Persian Bible.

II. Give short answers

1. Where was Assyria ? Name its important rulers.
2. What were the reasons for the downfall of the Assyrian empire ?
3. Write short notes on
   - i. Hanging Gardens of Babylon.
   - ii. Battle of Marathon.
4. What were the teachings of Zoroaster ?

III. Give long answers

1. Give an account of the reign of Sennacherib.
2. Point out the achievements of Hammurabi.
3. Describe the administration of Darius I.
4. Give an account of the wars between the Greeks and the Persians.

Exercise

1. On the map of Eurasia mark the extent of the Persian Empire under Darius I.
2. Collect the pictures of the Ancient Emperors of South West Asia.

6. ALEXANDER THE GREAT (336 – 323 B.C.)

Introduction

We come across many heroic personages in World History. Among them **Alexander** the Great of Greece in the fourth century B. C., **Hannibal** the general who belonged to Carthage in North Africa in the third century B. C., **Julius Caesar** the Roman general who expanded the Roman empire in the first century B, C., **Chengiz Khan** the great Mongol who was a terror to the people of Asia and Europe in the thirteenth century A. D. and **Napoleon** the French military genius in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries A. D. are those who have attained world fame by their heroic deeds. Now we shall study about Alexander the Great in this lesson.

Early life

In ancient times the Balkan peninsula was known as Greece. There was a kingdom called Macedonia in the northern part of greece. **Philip II** became the king of Macedonia in 359 B.C. He built up a splendid professional army and with its help he brought the whole of Greece under his rule. He wanted to invade Persia, and made preparations to carry out his aim. But he was killed in 336 B.C. After his death, his son **Alexander**, a young man of twenty



Fig. 11. Alexander the Great

inherited his throne and army. Alexander wanted to conquer all the countries of the world and establish a great empire.

Alexander had been given good education by the great Greek philosopher, **Aristotle**. On the death of his father, the City-states of Athens, Thebes and Corinth revolted against the Macedonian rule. Alexander put down their revolt and conquered the whole of Greece. In 334 B.C. he set on the conquest of the Persian empire.

Conquest of the Persian Empire

With a large army Alexander invaded the Persian Empire which was then ruled by Darius III. At first he attacked Asia Minor and defeated a Persian army on the river **Granicus**. In 333 B.C. he won another victory at **Issus** over the Persians. Consequently the whole of Asia Minor came under his rule. He proceeded south and conquered Phoenicia, Syria and Egypt. At the mouth of the River Nile he founded the city of Alexandria which became the centre of Greek commerce and Greek culture. After the conquest of Egypt, he invaded Babylonia and completely defeated the army of Darius III at **Gagamela** or **Arbela** near Babylon. Darius III the Persian King who fled from the battle field was killed by some of his own men. Alexander captured the cities of Babylon, Susa and Persepolis. He also conquered Media. The Persian Empire as a whole came under his rule. He married **Statira**, the only daughter of Darius III and proclaimed himself as the Great King or Emperor.

Conquest of Central Asia

Alexander thought that he could conquer the whole world as he was able to conquer the vast empire of Persia within a short period. So he led his army into Central Asia and conquered a number of states including Bactria,

Sogdiana, Aria, Drangiana, Arachosia and Gedrosia. He married **Roxana**, a Sogdiana princess.

Invasion of India

After conquering Central Asia, Alexander crossed the Hindu-Kush mountains and entered India through the Khyber Pass. **Ambi**, the king of Taxila submitted to him. But **Porus** Puruishothaman the king of the Punjab resisted Alexander on the banks of the river **Jhelum** in 326 B.C. Alexander defeated him. Alexander advanced as far as the river **Beas**, and as his soldiers refused to advance any further, he returned to Greece. On his way back he reached Babylon where he died in 323 B.C. from fever, at the early age of thirty two.

Alexander's Empire

Alexander's Empire stretched from the Adriatic sea in the West, to the Indus valley in the East covering the continents of Europe, Africa and Asia. After his death his empire split up into three divisions under three of his generals. The Asiatic part fell to **Seleucus**, the European part to **Antigonus** and the African part became a new Kingdom of Egypt under **Ptolemy**.

Alexander's Eurasian Policy

Alexander proved to be the great conqueror of the ancient world. He had the capacity to maintain his army as a disciplined force. He was also a great strategist in warfare.

He did not confine his interest to the city states of Greece. On the other hand he thought of establishing a World Empire uniting Europe, Asia and Africa. He wanted to spread the Greek culture by uniting the people in one world. His aim was to remove all differences of nation, race, language, religion and custom among the people and set up a World Brotherhood. He wanted to make the Greek

culture as the culture of the whole world. He wanted it to be the common property of mankind. How broad minded was his policy !

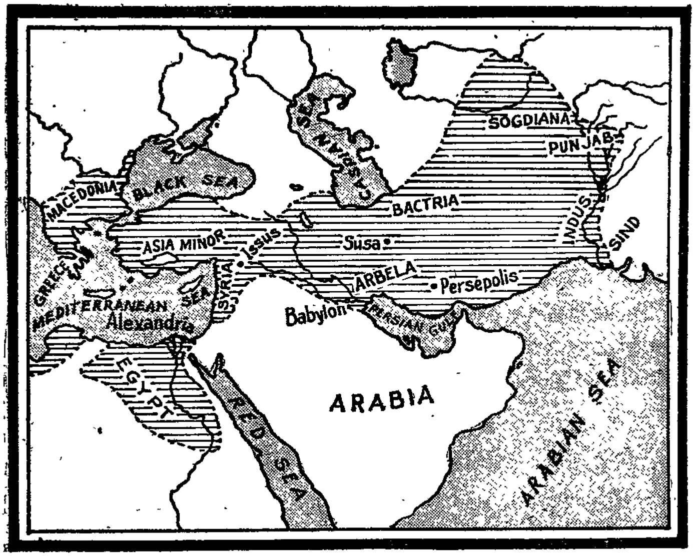


Fig. 12. Alexander's Empire

He attempted to realise his ideal by adopting three methods. In the first place, he wanted Europeans to marry Asiatics. He himself married Statira, the Persian princess and Roxana, the Sogdiana princess. Secondly, he followed oriental customs and manners and asked his Macedonian officers to follow suit. Thirdly, he founded cities like Alexandria in the different parts of his empire to be centres of Greek culture and commerce.

Alexander, with in a short period established an empire spreading over the three continents of Asia, Europe and Africa. He also attempted to unite the people in one world. Hence, he is described in history as 'Alexander the Great'.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. Alexander's tutor was_______.
2. Alexander founded a city called Alexandria at the mouth of the river_______.
3. Darius III was defeated by Alexander in the battles of _______, _______, _______.
4. Alexander died at _______.

II. Give short answers

1. Write a note on the Jhelum River Battle.
2. Why did not Alexander invade the Gangetic Valley ?
3. How was Alexander's Empire administered after his death ?
4. Does he deserve the title 'Alexander the Great' ?

III. Give long answers

1. Give a brief account of Alexander's conquests.
2. Describe Alexander's Eurasian Policy ?

Exercises

1. Draw a map to indicate Alexander's empire.
2. Stage a drama of the meeting between Alexander and Porus.

7. CHINA IN THE 6th CENTURY B.C.

Introduction

We have seen how river valleys became the centres of civilisation and that on the banks of the **Hwangho** or Yellow River, a great civilisation flourished many centuries before the Christian era. The Yellow River civilisation was a chinese civilisation. The Chinese belonged to the Mongolia race.* Like India, China attained glory in the sphere of religion and philosophy in ancient times. In the sixth century B.C., just as Mahavira and Gautama Buddha preached

new religions to the people in India, **Laotzu** and **Confucius**, the two great philosophers of China laid down a code of conduct to the people of China. We shall study about the two Chinese philosophers in this lesson.

LAO TZU

Lao-Tzu was born about 570 B.C. in the village of Chu-Jhren. The hair of his head was white when he was born. Hence, he was called Lao-Tzu (old boy), a philosopher. He was a keeper of the secret Archives in the Royal Court. Later he was a state historian. He preached his philosophy to the people of China and died at the age of 87.

His philosophy is called **Taoism**. **Tao** means the **way** or **Road** or **Path**. His sayings and teachings are contained in the book called **TaoTeaching** (Canon of Tao). Ideas not easily understood or based upon divine origin are not found in his religion. His religion was more a code of good conduct than philosophy. He says "To the good, I would be good. To the bad, I would also be good in order to make them good. Those who spend too much for others get too much for themselves. Every one should live in harmony with Nature. Self interest and desire are the root causes for man's misery." He says further "Nature's creations do their duty without claiming any rights. They do not store up for future." Lao Tzu does not want any one to interfere with Natural Laws. "Reform is not the way to end discontent, If every one does his duty, there will not be any discontent. When there is opposition or conflict, the best way of overcoming it, is not by fight but by a policy of compromise or 'give and take'. Peaceful performance of duty will secure victory rather than violent confrontation". Like Rousseau of France, Lao Tzu points out the distinction between the State of Nature and Civilization. In olden days people

lived peacefully in villages in the midst of Nature. As days went on, towns grew up and people began to give up village life and settle in towns and cities. As a result, problems arose and man lost peace. He therefore advocated a return to Nature, for a State of Nature alone will give peace to man.

He regarded urban life and control by reformers and authorities and literature, as destroying the peace of man.

CONFUCIUS (551 - 480 B.C.)

Confucius was born about 551 B.C. in the province of Lu (modern Shang-Tung). He belonged to a ruling class family. His father was an army officer. He lost his father when he was three years old. He was brought up by his mother.



Fig. 13. Confucius

He got married at the age of nineteen. He entered Government service as a storekeeper. He resigned his job at the age of twenty two. He founded a school in order to teach people good conduct. Many joined his school. He also became a magistrate. In that job he showed qualities of humility,

honesty and justice. He then became Supervisor of Public Works and in that capacity helped the growth of agriculture. He then became the Minister of the Crime department. During his office crimes decreased in the province. He left government service and spent fourteen years wandering from state to state. At last he returned to his native village. He died at the age of seventy two.

Confucius never talked about Heaven or God. He devoted himself only to the study of things human. Confucianism is not a religion in the customary sense. It is a code of conduct. One of his disciples asked him, "O venerable Master, how can I serve God?" Confucius replied, "You do not know how to serve man, how can you ask about serving God?" He again asked Confucius, 'Please tell me all about death. "Confucius replied, "you do not know much about Life ; how can you expect to know about Death?". But Confucius never denied the existence of Heaven and God.

He laboured very much in giving moral training to people. He laid very great emphasis on cultivation of virtues. According to him, if every one in society does his or her own duty very well, the Government will be good and efficient. He emphasised that the administrators should be throughly honest and should possess virtues. If the superiors and elders had a good character, others would follow them and there would be love and peace every where. He said that Government should protect old people, orphans and widows ; Unemployed people should be provided with employment; Diseased should be taken care of by the Government. Most of his ideas are socialistic ideas. Confucius gave importance to good education and sound knowledge. He wanted people to work hard. He wanted them to be united. People do not like evil to be done to them. So they should not do

evil to others. This should be observed as the Golden Rule of Life.

Confucius has bequeathed to the people five books. They are called **Wuking or Five Canons.** He is regarded as the greatest of all Chinese Philosophers.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. Lao Tzu was born in the village of ________.
2. ________ is the name of the philosophy of Lao Tzu
3. Confucius was born in the province of ________.

II. Give short answers

1. What is meant by 'Tao'?
2. What were the officers held by Confucius?
3. What were the socialistie ideas of Confucius?

III. Give long answers

1. What were the teachings of Lao Tzu?
2. What were the religious, social and political ideas of Confucius?

8. INDIA FROM THE 4th CENTURY B.C. TO THE 7th CENTURY A.D.

Introduction

We have read that in ancient times, great empires flourished in Western Asia. Similarly in India many empires rose and fell during that period and many emperors attained fame by their victories and noble acts. We shall now study about them in this lesson.

MAURYAN EMPIRE (325–188 B.C.)

The earliest empire in India was founded by the **Nanda Kings** with Pataliputra as their capital. They ruled for 100 years. The Nanda Empire spread over the Gangetic and the Mahanadi plains. Alexander the Great invaded India when the Nandas were ruling over Northern India. The next famous empire was the **Mauryan Empire.**

Chandragupta Maurya (325—301B.C.)

Chandragupta Maurya was the founder of the Mauryan dynasty. He overthrew **Dhana Nanda** and became the ruler of Magadha. He then expelled the Macedonian garrisons from the Punjab and Sind and became the master of the whole of North India.

In 305 B.C. **Seleucus Nikator,** one of the generals of Alexander the Great, invaded India to recover the lost territories of Alexander in India, but he was defeated by Chandragupta. By this victory Chandragupta got from Seleucus Kabul, Kandhar, Herat and Baluchistan. Seleucus sent **Megasthenes** as ambassador to the Mauryan Court. Megasthenes wrote a book called 'Indica' about India. Chandragupta's Empire included the whole of North India (except Assam) and North West India comprising Baluchistan and Afganistan. Jain accounts say that Chandragupta accompanied **Bhadrabahu,** the great Jain monk to South India and that he starved himself to death at **Sravana-belgola,** in Mysore.

Asoka (273—232 B.C.)

Chandragupta Maurya was succeeded by his son **Bindusara** who ruled the country from 301 B.C. to 273 B.C. He conquered the Deccan except Kalinga and enlarged the empire. On the death of Bindusara, his son Asoka came to the throne.

In 261 B.C. Asoka waged a war with Kalinga and conquered it. A great change came over Asoka after his war with Kalinga. It was then that he decided never to wage war again but to devote himself to the welfare of the people. He became a Buddhist and dedicated himself to the task of spreading the Buddhist religion. We have studied in the lesson on Buddhism the measures taken by Asoka to spread Buddhism. After his death the Mauryan Empire declined.

KUSHAN EMPIRE
(First two centuries of the Christian era)

Two centuries after the decline of the Mauryan Empire, there arose another Empire named the Kushan Empire in the North Western part of India. The Kushans were foreigners. They were a tribe from Central Asia.

Kanishka (78—120 A.D.)

Kanishka was the greatest of the Kushan emperors. He conquered Kashmir and extended his power as far as Pataliputra. He built Purushapura or Peshawar and made it his capital. He waged a successful war with China and got **Khotan, Khashgar** and **Yarkhand** from China.

Like Asoka, Kanishka patronized Buddhism and spread it to foreign countries. It was in Kanishka's time that Buddhism developed into the **Mahayana** form. Buddhism prior to Kanishka's time was called **Hinayana**. According to the Mahayana form of Buddhism the Buddha was regarded as God and temples were built with the idols of the Buddha. As a result, a new style of sculpture called **Gandhara Art** grew, other arts and literature also flourished in his time.

After Kanishka the Kushan Empire began to decline.

GUPTHA EMPIRE (300—500A.D.)

After the fall of the Kushan Empire there arose a number of Kingdoms. At the beginning of the 4th century A. D. a chieftain named **Sri Gupta** founded a small kingdom near Pataliputra. The dynasty founded by him is known as the Gupta dynasty.

Chandra gupta I (320 — 330 A.D.)

The real founder of Gupta Empire was Chandragupta I, the grandson of Sri Gupta. His capital was Pataliputra. He married **Kumaradevi**, a Lichchavi princess and with the help of the Lichchavis, he conquered the territories called at present Bihar, Uttharpradesh, and Bengal and enlarged his empire. The Gupta Era began from 320 A. D. when his coronation took place.

Samudragupta I (330 — 380 A.D.)

After Chandragupta I, his son Samudragupta became the king. He was a great warrior and he embarked upon a career of conquest. He captured most of the territories of North India and invaded the Deccan along the East sea coast. He defeated **Mahendran** of Pithapuram, **Hasthivarnan** of Vengi and **Vishnugopa**, the Pallava King of Kanchi and returned to his capital by the West Coast. After the completion of his conquests he performed the Aswamedha or horse sacrifice. He is called the **Indian Napoleon** on account of his extensive conquests. He was not only a great conqueror, he had a taste for fine arts, especially music.

Chandra gupta II (380—415 A.D.)

The son and successor of Samudragupta was Chandragupta II. He is called **Vikramaditya** on account of his great valour. He defeated the Saka Satraps of Western India and annexed Malwa and Gujarat to his Empire. He had there-

fore the title of 'Sakari'. He made Ujjain the second capital of his empire which stretched from the East coast to the West coast.

There were in his Royal Court nine celebrated men of different talents called 'Nine Gems'.

It was during the reign of Chandragupta II that the Chinese traveller **Fahien** came to our country to visit the holy places of Buddhism and to collect Buddhist sacred books. He spent nine years in India of which he spent six years in the Gupta Empire. He has given us a very pleasing picture of the country with some very intimate details.

During the Gupta period there was a revival of Hinduism. The country was at its height in the fields of literature, art and science. Hence the Gupta period is called the 'Golden Age' of Ancient India.

After Vikramaditya a wild tribe known as the Huns attacked the Gupta Empire and hence it broke up.

HARSHA'S EMPIRE *(606–647 A.D.)*

After the break up of the Gupta Empire, there was disorder in North India. Many small kingdoms arose and one of them was the Kingdom of Thaneswar. It was ruled by the Vardhanas. Among them **Harsha Vardhana** was the most important king.

Harsha Vardhana became the king of Thaneswar at the age of sixteen. His brother had been treacherously killed by his enemies; his widowed sister who had been imprisoned had escaped from prison and entered the Vindhya forest. His immediate task was to recover his sister. Harsha was able to rescue his sister. He also became the ruler of **Kanauj** which then became the capital of his empire. He defeated his

enemies one by one. He conquered Gujarat, Saurashtra, Kamarupa and Sind. In 620 A.D., Harsha invaded the Deccan but was defeated by the great western Chalukyan king, **Pulakesin II** on the bank of the river Narmada which as a result became the southern boundary of his empire, Harsha then devoted his attention to the internal administration of his country.

Harsha was an able administrator. He personally supervised the administration of his empire. There was an efficient civil service. He often toured the country to know about the welfare of his subjects. He redressed the grievances of his people. Taxes were light. One sixth of the gross produce from the land was collected as land Tax.

Harsha followed Mahayana Buddhism. He was tolerant towards other religions. He gave presents to the followers of all other religions.

Harsha was not only a conqueror and administrator but also a man of learning. He wrote three dramas in Sanskrit. They were **Nagananda, Ratnavali,** and **(Priyadarsika)**. Bana was his Court poet. He wrote the **Harshacharita** and **Kadambari.** During the period of his rule the famous **Nalanda University** founded by Kumara Gupta flourished. It had 1,500 teachers and 10,000 students. Hieun-Tsang, the Chinese traveller came to India during the reign of Harsha. We learn much about Harsha's administration from the account he has left.

Harsha died in 647 A.D. After his death his empire broke up.

PALLAVA EMPIRE

When there was Harsha's Empire in North India, the Pallava Empire was in South India. Pallavas were ruling over

the territory between the rivers Krishna and Cauveri from 3rd century A.D. to the 9th century A.D. Their capital city was **Kanchipuram.** The Pallavas who ruled Kanchi from the end of the 6th to the 8th century A. D. have been described in history as the **Great Pallavas** because of their achievements.

Simhavishnu (575–600 A.D.)

It was during the reign of Simhavishnu that the Pallavas started on their career of political and cultural achievements. He was a great warrior. He conquered the Cholas, the Pandyas and the Kalabhras. Hence he had the title of **Avanisimha.**

Mahendravarman I (600–630 A.D.)

Simhavishnu was succeeded by his son, Mahendravarman I. He was defeated by the western Chalukyan king, Pulakesin II. In the beginning Mahendravarman was a Jain, but later on, he became a follower of Siva thanks to the efforts of the Saiva Saint **Tirunavukarasar** or **Appar.**

Mahendravarman I was a great builder. He excavated many rock cave temples. The paintings of Sithannavasal belong to his period. He built a reservoir at Mahendravadi. He assumed titles like **Chithrakarapuli,** and **Vichitrachithan.**

Narasimhavarman (650—655 A.D.)

After Mahendravarman I, his son Narasimhavarman succeeded to the throne. He was the greatest of the Pallava-rulers. He defeated Pulakesin II and burnt his capital Vatapi. Hence, he assumed the title 'Vatapi Kondan'. He was also called 'Mamallar' on account of his physical strength and talent in wrestling. He founded a sea beach town and gave it the name of Mamallapuram. There he built many monolithic temples and stone Rathas. Hieun - Tsang, the

Chiness traveller visited the Pallava Kingdom during his reign. He has paid a tribute to the excellent rule of the Pallava kings.

Among the later Pallava kings, **Narasimhavarman** II or **Rajasimha** ruled from 680 A.D. to 700 A.D. He built the Kailasnath and Vaikuntha Perumal temples at kanchi and the shore temple at Mamallapuuam. The last Pallava king **Aparajita Varma** built a temple at Thirutthani. He was defeated by Aditya Chola towards the end of the 9th century and the Cholas became supreme in South India.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. The Greek general who fought with Chandragupta Mauriya was ______.
2. Magasthenes wrote the book ______.
3. ______ was a turning point in the life of Asoka.
4. During the reign of Kanishka ______ form of Buddhism and ______ Art of sculpture arose.
5. Samudragupta is called ______ by historians.
6. The Gupta Empire broke up due to the attack of the ______
7. Mahendra Varman embraced Saivism due to the efforts of ______ the Saiva Saint.
8. Narasimhavarman I had the titles of ______ and ______.

II. Give short answers

1. Mention the victories of Chandragupta Maurya.
2. What territories did Kanishka get from China ?
3. Describe the conquests of Samudragupta.
4. Mention the literary works of Hursha's period.
5. Write a short note on the Nalanda University.
6. Mention the victories of Avanisimha
7. Write a note on Mahandravarman's religious Experience.

III. Give long answers

1. Describe the reign of Asoka.
2. Give an account of the reign of Harsha.
3. Mention the achievements of the important Pallava ruler.

Exercise

1. Dramatise the incidents in the life of Asoka and Harsha.
2. Make a visit to Mamallapuram and enjoy its sculpture.

9. PALESTINE

Introduction

Christianity is the religion of many people in the world. This religion was preached by **Jesus Christ**, a Jew in Pales-

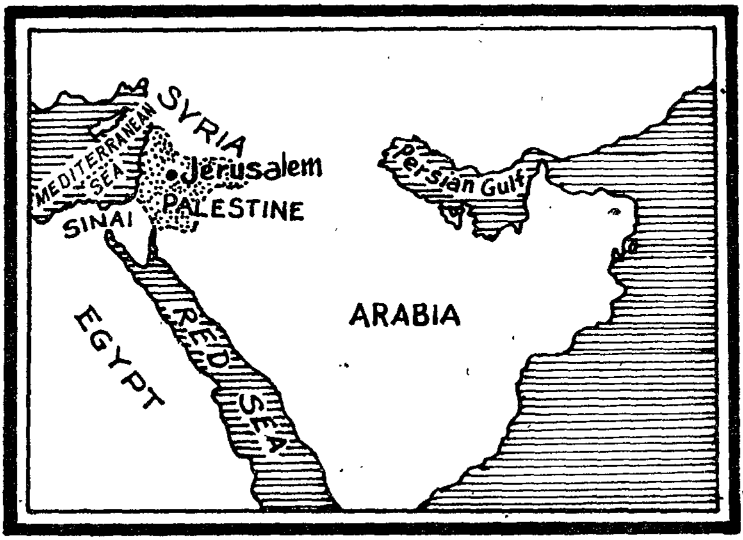


Fig. 14 Palestine

tine. In this lesson we shall read the life history and the teachings of Jesus Christ and the spread of Christianity to various parts of the world. This religion was preached in Western Asia and it then spread to Europe. Now it has become a world religion.

The Jews

Palestine is in South west Asia. It lies in between the two countries of Egypt and Syria. The people of Palestine belonged to the Semitic race and were known as **Jews.** They spoke the **Hebrew** language. They worshipped only one God whom they called **Jehovah.** They had strong faith in their religion. The Jews had been taken to Egypt by the Egyptian kings as slaves. They suffered much in Egypt. When **Moses** the Prophet came to know of this, he released the Jews and moved them out of Egypt and took them to Palestine. But Moses died on the way. He gave the Jews the famous 'Ten Commandments'. The Jews were ruled by kings. The most important of them were **David and Solomon.** David made **Jerusalem,** the Capital of the Jewish kingdom. Solomon was a wise king who ruled efficiently. He built the famous temple at Jerusalem for their God.



Fig 15. King Solomon

After Solomon's rule, Palestine became a part of the Babylonian Empire, then under the Persians and finally it was annexed by Alexander. It came under the rule of the Romans in the first century B.C. The Romans expelled the Jews from Palestine. This incident is known as the **Diaspora**. Due to this the Jews had been living in various parts of the world. Now the Jews have their homeland in West Asia and it is called **Israel**.

JESUS CHRIST AND CHRISTIANITY

Life history of Jesus Christ

Jesus was a Jew and he was born in a stable at **Bethlehem** in Judaea. At that time Judaea, a part of Palestine was ruled by a petty king called **Herod**. But the whole of Palestine was a part of the Roman empire. Palestine was ruled by the Governor **Pantius Pilate**, a representative of **Augustus Caesar**, the Roman Emperor. By God's grace Jesus was born to **Virgin Mary**. He was called as, the Son of God by Christians. He was brought up by **Joseph**. Jesus did many wonders and cured the diseases of the sick. At the age of 30 he preached his religion. He called himself 'a saviour'. He declared that the kingdom established by him was the kingdom of God and did not belong to the world. He was hated by the Jews as he attacked their narrow-mindedness and selfish attitude. He was charged for trying to call Himself as the **Head of the Jews** by **Pontius Pilate**, the Roman Governor, and was condemned to death. He was crucified on a hill overlooking Jerusalem. Even at the time of his death, He requested God to pardon those who had crucified Him. He is believed to have reappeared after three days of Crucifixion and lived for 40 days in the world.

The teachings of Christ

'God is one; He is the Father of the World; idol worship is wrong; God is Love, Pity and Truth; all the people are the sons of God; God loves uniformly all the people,' so said Jesus. Thus He taught to all the Brotherhood of Man. Any one who felt sorry for his sins, could expect a pardon from God. He asked people to love even their enemies. If we forgive the sins of others, God will forgive our sins. Everyone can attain the feet of God and reach Heaven, if the worship of God is performed with sincerity, patience and self-control.

Spread of Christianity

Jesus Christ selected 12 Apostles to spread Christianity. His teachings are contained in the Bible, the sacred book of the Christians. The teachings were collected by his Apostles and the collection was called the 'New Testament', an important part of the Bible. **St. Thomas** was his main Apostle and he was responsible for the spread of Christianity in the eastern countries. He is said to have lived in India and spread Christianity. He was killed at St. Thomas Mount, near Madras.

Saul, a Jew, hated Christianity at first. He gave trouble to the Christians. But suddenly he changed his mind. He became an active Christian Missionary and he came to be called as St. Paul. He spread the teachings of Jesus to Rome, Syria, Asia-Minor and the nations of the Mediteranean sea. He is said to have been killed by the Roman Emperor **Nero,** in 64 A.D. He built Churches to be used for the worship of Jesus.

The Roman Emperors gave a lot of trouble to the Christians. They killed many Christians. Christians sacrificed their lives for the sake of Christ. The more the Chris-

tian blood was spilt, the stronger Christian Church became. 'The blood of the martyrs became the seed of the Church'.

Constantine, the Romon Emperor accepted Christianity and this helped its expansion. In 313 A.D. emperor Constantine issued the Edict of Milan and granted freedom of workship to the Christians. Later, Emperor **Theodosius** declared Christianity as the official religion of the Roman Empire. This made Christianity spread through out the Roman Empire.

Buddhism founded in India, spread to many countries in the world. It became a world religion, but it disappeared from the land of its birth. Similarly, Christianity which was founded by Jesus in West Asia spread to foreign countries and became a world religion. But it has disappeared from the land of its birth, Palestine.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. ________ gave the Jews the famous 'Ten Commandments'.
2. The birth place of Jesus Christ is ________.
3. __________ was the main Apostle of Jesus who spread Christianity in India.
4. In 64 A.D. ________ was killed by emperor Nero.
5. The sacred book of the Christians is the ________.

II. Give short answers

1. What is 'Diaspora' ?
2. What was the part played by St. Paul for the spread of Christianity?
3. What was the main role played by Constantine for Christianity ?

III. Give long answers

1. Write about the Jews of Palestine.
2. Describe the life history of Jesus Christ and His teachings.
3. Give an account of the spread of Christianity.

Exercise

1. Mark Palestine, Jerusalem, Egypt, Syria, Mediterranean Sea in the world map.
2. Pay a visit to a Christian Church.
3. Learn the mode of worship of the Christians.

10. SPREAD OF INDIAN CULTURE OVERSEAS

Introduction

If the culture of a country is to spread to other nations, it should be the best. Then only the people of other nations will accept that culture. It is spread through commerce, colonisation and conquest. For example, Greek culture spread to the Mediterranean nations through Colonisation. It was also spread to Asian and African nations through Alexander's conquests. The Roman culture was spread to the nations of Europe, Africa and Asia through conquest. Similarly, our culture spread to overseas through commerce, colonisation and conquest. Our excellent culture spread easily to our neighbouring countries through the above methods. Now we shall study the spread of Indian culture overseas.

Indians went abroad to earn wealth by trade. Gradually after their stay there, they moved to other nations through land and sea. Indians traded in the world market, **Nigni Navegad** which was the best at that time. They established colonies there, and they spread the culture wherever they went. Thus Indian culture spread to all parts of the world.

During the period of the Later Cholas, the kings established their empires overseas. From the Tamil historical

works, we learn that **Rajendra Chola** captured **Kadaram** in Malaya and hoisted his flag in that area and brought it under his control. Due to their efforts, Indian culture spread to South East Asia such as Sumatra, Java and Boreneo. In those countries Indian temples and Buddhist Viharas are found even today.

CEYLON

Mahavamsa tells about the history of Ceylon. This book describes the fusion of Indian culture with the Ceylonese culture. Asoka sent his son and daughter to spread Buddhism in Ceylon. Hence, many Buddhist monasteries were built there. From the Sangam Literature we learn that there was close contact between India and Ceylon. The meeting of Cheran Senguttavan and the Ceylonese King **Kayavahu** is found in 'Silappathikaram'. Since there were trade relations between the two countries Tamilians began to colonise some parts of Ceylon.

During the Gupta rule, **Meghavarman,** the king of Ceylon, got permission from Samudra Gupta and built a Buddhist monastery at Gaya. In the 5th Century A.D. colour painting was done in **Sigiriya** mountain in imitation of the Ajantha paintings. The Chinese traveller **Fahien** in his account mentions the trade contacts between Ceylon and India. The Pallavas maintained good relations with the kings of Ceylon. One ancient work says, that **Manavarman,** king of Ceylon, got assistance from **Narasimhavarma Pallava** to get back his throne. The Cholas built a Siva Temple in Ceylon. The paintings and art of this temple are after the Indian type.

During the 10th and 11th Centuries A.D. when Chola Kings were ruling Thanjavur, a part of Ceylon was within the Chola Empire. **RajaRaja Chola** and **Rajendra Chola** invaded

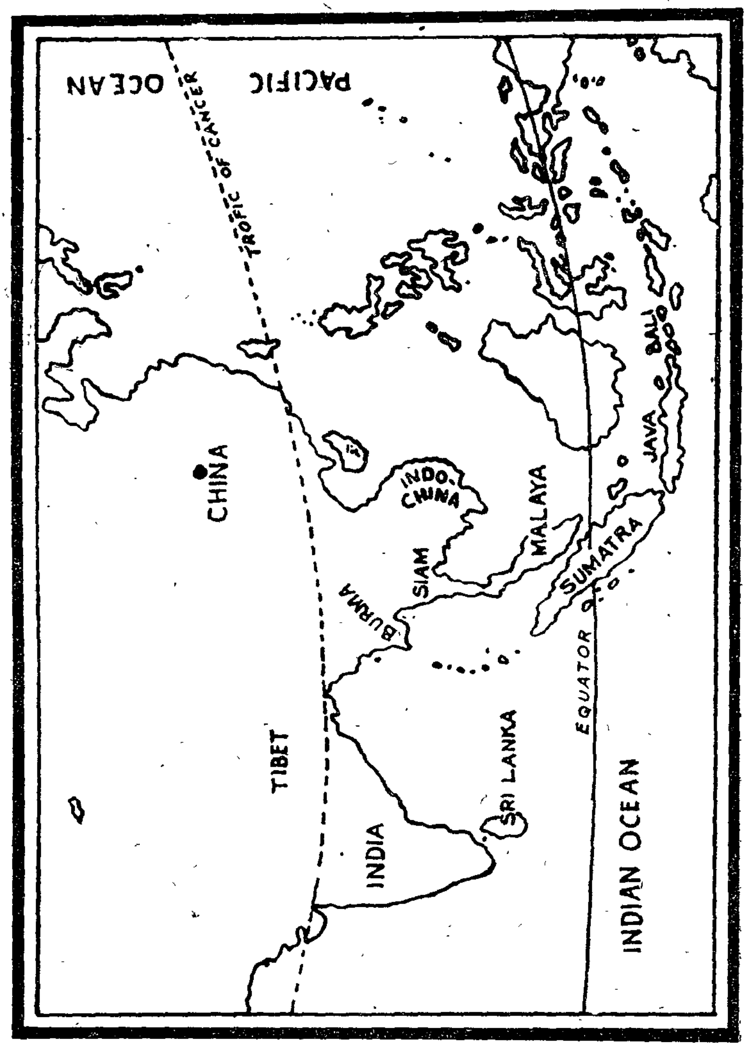


Fig. 16.. South East Asia

Ceylon and brought the north eastern part of Ceylon under their control. Tamil people colonised that region and spread their culture. That area is even today inhabited mainly by Tamilians. Muruga the God of the Tamil's is also the God of worship in Ceylon.

SOUTH EAST ASIA

South East Asia consists of Burma, Thailand (Siam), Indo-China, Philippines, Indonesia (East Indies) and Malaysia.

Burma: When Kanishka spread Buddhism in Burma, Indian culture also spread there. It is said that the contact of India with Burma was made through Manipur. Because of this, Puranic Epics are found in Burma. They were written in Pali and Sanskrit. The Burmese still live today like the Indians and are influenced by Buddhism and Indian art, architecture, painting, music, dance and drama.

Indo China : Indo China consists today of **Cambodia** or **Kampuchea, Laos** and **Vietnam**. This country is to the east of Burma. The Hindus established their colonies in Indo China during the first Century A.D. Indian Culture was followed till the spread of Islam in the 16th Century A.D. From the word **Indo** in Indo-China we can realise the influence of Indian culture in that country.

Till the sixth century A.D. the Hindu Kings ruled **Funan** in Indo China. **Jayavarman** (484—514 A.D.) was the most important king of Funan. Hinduism and Buddhism flourished there under him. From the inscriptions, we learn that the Buddha was worshipped and temples were constructed for him.

Kamboja or **Cambodia** or **Kampuchea:** This country was another part of Indo China. This Hindu kingdom was

founded by **Kumbu Swayambhuva** and hence it came to be known as Kamboja and now it is called Kampuchea. There are both Siva and Vishnu temples in this country. The temples were built in South Indian style and the mode of worship was also South Indian. When Bengal was ruled by the **Pala Kings**, Mahayana Buddhism spread in Cambodia. Buddhist Viharas were built during this period. **Surya-varman** (112 A.D.) was the greatest king of Cambodia and he had faith in Hinduism. He had interest in arts. The most famous Vishnu temple of **Angkorvat** was built in his capital **Angkorthem.** It is on the Dravidian model with sculptures, illustrating the 'Ramayana' the 'Mahabharatha' and the 'Harivamsa.' The gold coverings were made and fixed to the temple towers.

Siam : This country came under the influence of Indian culture. The kings of Siam framed their laws on the lines of Hindu Dharma Sastras. Sanskrit was used in Government offices. Its capital was **Bangkok.** The temples here were adorned with sculptures illustrating the episodes of the Ramayana. Today Siam is known as **Thailand.**

Sumatra : Sri Vijayan ruled **Sumatra** islands in the 7th Century A.D. Buddhism was then the religion. **Itsing**, the Chinese pilgrim, visited India in 675 A.D. There was trade relation between India and China through Sumatra. In the 8th Century A. D., **Sri Vijaya Kingdom** was changed into the **Sailendra Kingdom.** The kings of that kingdom ruled islands such as Java, Sumatra, Malaya and Cambodia. The Silendras followed Mahayana Buddhism. They had diplomatic relations with the Chola Kings of Tamilnadu and the Pala kings of Bengal. They built Buddhist Viharas in Java. The Stupa at **Barabudur** is a famous one. The kings who came after the Sailendra dynasty patronised Hinduism. Muslims captured Sumatra and Java in 15th Century A.D. But in

Bali islands, Hinduism continues to flourish even today. The people of the Bali Island use Sanskrit for the worship of of God.

Malaya: This country was also included in the Sailendra Empire. In 1025 A.D. Rajendra Chola sent a naval expedition, captured kadaram and hence he was called as **Kadaram Kondan.** Kadaram is identified as a part of Malaya.

It will thus be seen that South East Asia was greatly influenced by Indian culture. The administration and mode of constructing temples and architecture were based upon Indian style. Further, sati, rice food, cremation, use of tobacco, cock fighting etc. which had deep roots in South East Asia were Indian.

China : During Asoka's rule, Buddhism spread to South East Asia and South West Asia. Then during the rule of Kanishka, it spread to Central Asia. From there, it spread to China. Some Chinese scholars wanted to visit India, the birth-place of Buddhism, to know more about it. Due to this, there was close contact between China and India. Even before the rise of Buddhism, India had trade relations with China. The Chinese entered India through the Gobi desert and Tibet.



Fig. 17. Hiuen Tsang

In 67 A.D. an Indian Scholar **Kashyapa Matanga** visited China. He was followed by scholar **Guna Rajiva.** They translated Sanskrit works into Chinese. They wrote many works in Chinese. This paved the way for many Chinese

pilgrims to visit India. Among them **Fahien, Hiuen Tsang** and **Itsing** were important.

With the decay of Buddhism in India, its birth place, the exchange of scholars practically stopped. But the trade relations between India and China continued for many years. Even now besides trade relations cultural relations are also maintained by exchange of scholars and artists.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. Sri Vijaya Kingdom was founded in ________ island.
2. Suryavarman built ________, the Vishnu temple in his capital.
3. Today Siam is known as ________

II. Give short answers

1. What are the nations of South East Asia ?
2. What are the special features of Angkorvat ?
3. How did Rajendra Chola spread Indian culture in South East Asia ?
4. Give a short note on 'Sailendras'.
5. Why did the contact between India and China stop ?

III. Give Long answers

1. Write clearly how Indian Culture spread overseas.
2. Give an account of the contact between India and Ceylon.

Exercise

Mark in South East Asia map, the countries of South East Asia and their capitals.

11. MUSLIM POWER IN ASIA

(7th Century A.D. to 16th Century A.D.)

Introduction

The unique distinction of Islam, which is one of the world religions is, that it spread to foreign countries within a short period after it originated in Arabia and helped to build an Islamic Empire. Now we shall study about its origin, growth, influence and contribution to world Civilization in this lesson.

MUHAMMAD THE PROPHET AND ISLAM

Muhammad the Prophet

Muhammad was born in 570 A.D. in **Mecca**, a town in Arabia in South West Asia. His father was **Abdulla** and his mother was **Amina**. He was a posthumous child. His mother too died a few years after his birth. Hence, he was brought up by his relations. In his youth he looked after herds of sheep. He accompanied his uncle in his business tour to Syria and other foreign countries and gained experience and knowledge in commerce. He entered the service of **Khatheeja**, the widow of a rich merchant. She admired Muhammad for his honesty and integrity. She married him too. In those days, the people of Arabia were superstitious and they worshipped many gods. Muhammad spent fifteen years in meditation to find ways to reform his people and to lead them to salvation. At the age of forty when he was in deep medidation in the cave of **Hira** mountain, in the month of Ramzan, the archangel **Gabriel** appeared before him, imparted to him five holy sentences, embraced him and disappeared. As he thus had contact with God he came to be called as **Nabi**.

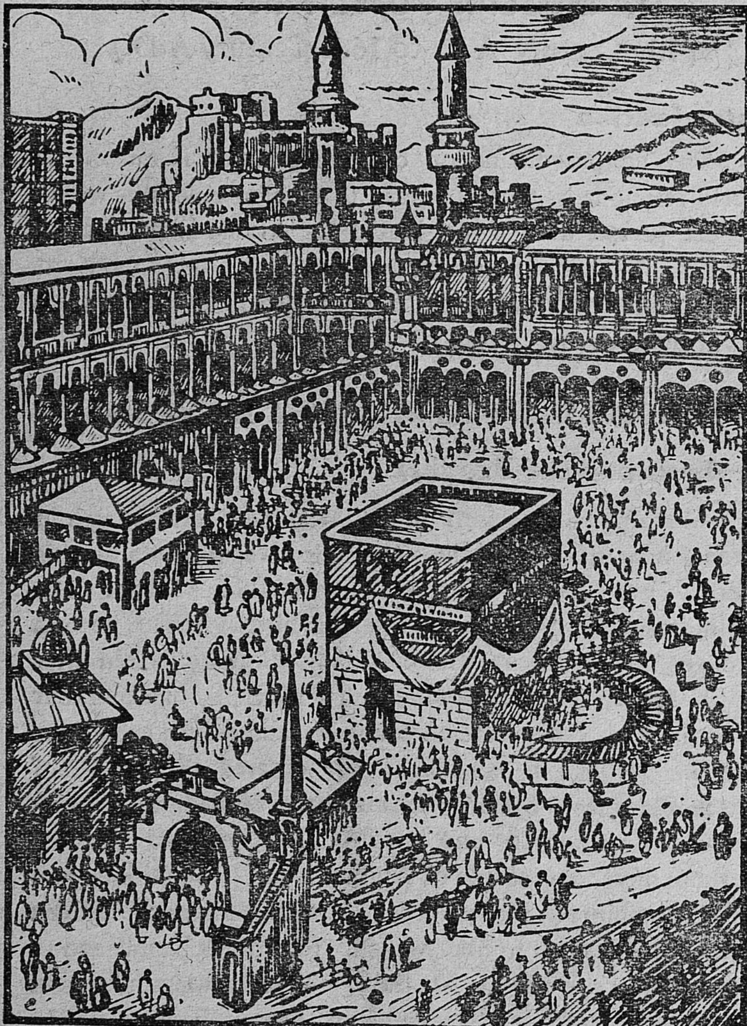


Fig. 18. Holy Mecca

He often received commands from God. When he revealed them, his friends noted them. Their collection is the **Holy Quran**. It is the sacred book of the Muslims. The religion preached by Muhammad the Prophet is called **Islam** and the followers of Islam are called **Muslims.**

Teaching's of Islam

There is one God ; He is Allah ; and Muhammad is His Prophet. All people are brothers. People should not be differentiated on the basis of wealth. Every Muslim should pray to God five times a day. Fasting during day time in the month of Ramzan is essential. Muslims with resources should make a pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in their life time. The drinking of wine is prohibited. The taking of interest on loans is illegal. A portion of man's earning must be spent in charity. These are the important teachings of Islam.

At first his only converts were his wife Khatheeja, and his close friends and relations. When Muhammad began to preach Islam to the people of Arabia, they not only rejected his teachings but also gave him a lot of trouble. They even plotted to murder him. Hence, in September, 622 A.D. Muhammad went from Mecca to Madhina which is about 520 k.m. in the north. This flight is known as the **Hijira** or **Hijirath** and the new era called **Hijira** of the Muslims commences from this year (622 A.D.).

The people of Madhina received Muhammad enthusiastically and accepted his teachings. In 630 Muhammad invaded Mecca with a large army and conquered it. Thereupon Islam began to spread over the whole of Arabia. Muhammad the Prophet was both the political and religious head of the Muslims. He died in 632 at the age of 62.

EXPANSION OF MUSLIM POWER —CALIPHATE

After the death of Muhammad in 632, his disciples established the office of Caliph to carry out his plans and to spread Islam. The Caliph was the representative of the prophet and was the religious and political head of Arabia. The form of Government was **Theocracy** where religion played an important part in politics.

The First Caliphs (Madhina - Arabia) (632—661 A.D.)

The first Caliphs remained in Madhina, in Arabia, when Muhammad the Prophet died, one of his relations named **Abubakar** (632—634 A.D.) became the Caliph. The second Caliph was **Omar** (634 — 644 A.D.). During his period Syria, Mesopotamia, the Euphrates valley, Persia, Armenia and Egypt were conquered.

The Omayyad Caliphs (Damascus-Syria) (661—750 A.D.)

The fifth Caliph **Moawiya** founded the Omayyad dynasty. He conquered North Africa. The Moores and Berbers of north Africa embraced Islam. The Capital of the Islamic Empire was moved from Madhina to Damascus in Syria. Moawiya was succeeded by his son **Yezid.** During his reign the Muslims were divided into two sects, **Shias** and **Sunnis. Abdul - Malik** became Caliph after Yezid, His general **Tarik** captured Gibralter and brought Spain under Muslim rule. During the period of the Caliph **Walid,** the important islands in the Mediteranean sea were conquered. One of his generals **Muhammad-bin-Kasim** invaded India and captured Sind in 712. That was the first Muslim invasion in India.

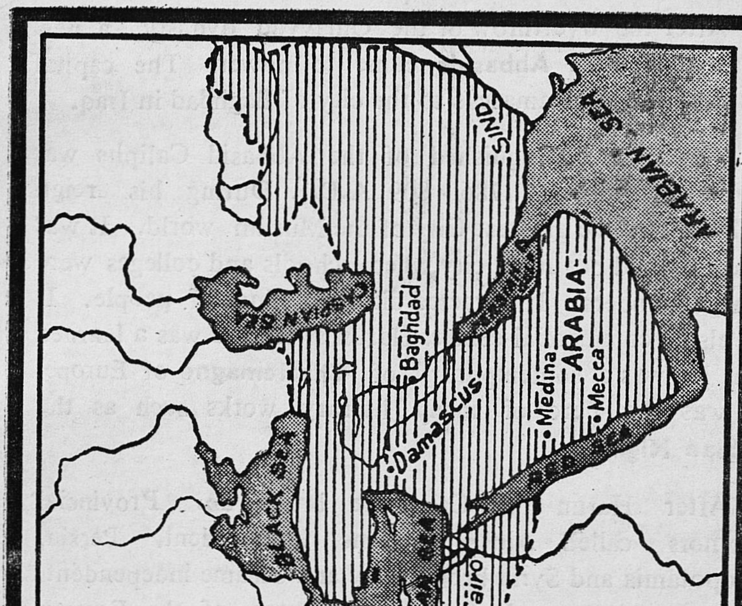


Fig. 19. Muslim Empire in 750 A.D.

Abbasid Caliphs (Bagdad - Iraq) (8 - 11 th century A.D.)

After the overthrow of the Omayyad dynasty, a new dynasty called the **Abbasids** came to power. The capital was shifted from Damascus to the city of Baghdad in Iraq.

The most distinguished of the Abbasid Caliphs was **Harun al Rashid** (786 - 809 A.D.). During his reign Baghdad was the greatest City of the Muslim world. It was a wealthy and beautiful city where schools and colleges were in large numbers. It attracted different kinds of people. It was also a commercial centre. Harun al Rashid was a learned man. He was a contemporary of **Charlemagne** of Europe. He was the hero of many literary works such as the **Arabian Nights.**

After Harun the Caliphate broke up. Provincial governors called **Amirs** became independent. Persia, Mesopotamia and Syria broke away and became independent. The **Seljuk Turks** made themselves masters of the Eastern provinces. The Muslim Empire became split up.

TURKO-AFGHAN CONQUEST OF INDIA

(11th and 12th centuries A.D.)

We have studied that the Muslims who invaded India first were Arabs under Muhammadbin Kasim. Due to that invasion Sind came under Arab rule. But the Arab rule in Sind did not last long. The Muslims who invaded India a second time were the Turko-Afghans. The Turko-Afghan invaders of India were **Muhammad Ghazni** and **Muhammad Ghori.**

Muhammad Ghazni (998 - 1030 A. D.)

In the 10 th century the Turks set up a number of Kingdoms in western Asia and in Afghanistan. **Ghazni in**

Afghanistan was one such kingdom. Its ruler Mohammad Ghazni invaded India many times. He took away enormous wealth to make his capital a centre of learning and architecture.

Mohammad Ghori (1175 - 1206 A. D.)

After the fall of the Ghazni Kingdom, **Ghor** in Afghanistan became a strong kingdom. Its ruler **Muhammad Ghori** invaded India with the object of establishing Muslim rule in India. He defeated **Prithivi Raj,** King of Delhi and Ajmere and Jaichandra, King of Kanauj. Delhi, Ajmere and Kanauj came under Ghori's rule. He captured more territories in North India. He returned to his country after leaving his slave **Qutb-ud-Din Aibak** as his Viceroy for the territories he conquered in India. On the death of Muhammad Ghori in 1206 A, D., Qutb-ud-Din Aibak became the Sultan of Delhi. Thus India had the Muslim King ruling from Delhi.

THE SULTANATE OF DELHI (1206 - 1256 A.D.)

Important Kings

From 1206 - 1526 five Muslim dynasties ruled over Delhi. They were the **Slave Kings,** the **Khiljis** the **Tughlaks** the **Sayyids** and the **Lodis.** The most famous slave kings were **Qutb-ud-din Iltumish** and **Balban.** The Qutb Minar at Delhi was built by Qutb-ud-din and Iltumish. The most famous Khilji Sultan was **Alauddin** who extended the Muslim Empire to the South. Mohammad Bin Tughlak was the important Sultan of the Tughlak dynasty. By some of his schemes which were far advanced of his times, like the transfer of capital from Delhi to Devagiri and reform of the coinage, he made himself unpopular. During the last days of the Tughlak dynasty, Taimur a Tartar, invaded India and

plundered Delhi. The last of the Lodi Kings, **Ibrahim Lodi** was a cruel tyrant. Taking advantage of his unpopularity, **Babar**, a **Mughal** ruler of Kabul, invaded India in 1526. He defeated and killed Ibrahim Lodi in the **First Battle of Panipat.** The Sultanate of Delhi fell and Mughal rule in Delhi began.

Causes for the downfall of the Delhi Sultanate

The unwise schemes of Mohammad-bin-Tughlak weakened the Sultanate. Provincial governors were not properly controlled and they became independent. The nobles became strong and they caused disorder in the country. The Hindus revolted against the Sultan's rule. The Muslims were in the beginning hardy warriors. But after their stay in India for three centuries they became degenerate and weak due to hot climate, and luxury. Finally, Taimur's invasion of 1398 weakened and ruined the empire.

THE CRUSADES

The Crusades were the religious wars carried on by the Christian people of Europe for recovering Palestine the Holy Land of the Christians from the hands of the Muslims. They lasted for two centuries with intervals in the Medieval period. They were called so from the cross worn as a badge by the Christian Soldiers

Causes

From very early days, Christians had been making pilgrimage to Christ's birth place and other places such as Bethlehem, Nazereth and Jerusalem in Palestine. When the Holy Land was in the hands of the Arabs, Christians were permitted to visit those places freely by the Arabs. In 1076 A. D. the Seljuk Turks captured Jerusalem and established their power in Palestine. The Turks gave a lot of trouble to

the Christian pilgrims. This provoked Christian Europe to undertake a Crusade to rescue the Holy Land from the Turks.

Course

The First Crusade (1096 - 1099)

A monk called **Peter, the Hermit,** saw in person the indignities and cruelties to which the Christian pilgrims were subjected to in the Holy land. He appealed to **Pope Urban II** who asked the kings and nobles of Europe to join and carry on a crusade against the Turks. Under the leadership of **Godfrey of Bouillon,** the Crusaders captured Jerusalem and set up a Christian Kingdom.

The Second Crusade (1147 - 1149)

As the Turks reconquered the Holy land, the Second Crusade took place. The Turks won. The Second Crusade was a failure.

The Third Crusade (1189 - 1192)

In 1187, **Saladin,** the Sultan of Egypt, captured Jerusalem. The Third Crusade was therefore undertaken. The Crusading army was led by the Austrian Emperor **Frederick Barbarossa, Philip Augustus** of France and **Richard I** of England. The Emperor Frederick was drowned in a stream on the way and died. The other two captured the town **Acre.** Soon a quarrel arose between them. Philip returned to his country. Richard fought with Saladin alone. Eventhough he defeated Saladin in the battle of **Arsouf** he could not capture Jerusalem. Therefore he concluded a treaty with Saladin. According to the treaty, Christians were permitted to visit the Holy land.

The Fourth Crusade (1202 - 1204)

Pope Innocent III was the author of the Fourth Crusade. The crusading army came to Venice to obtain ships to take

them to the Holy land. But the City of Venice asked the army to attack Constantinople, its rival in trade. Thus the army was wrongly used.

Other Crusades

The Children's Crusade of 1212, the fifth, the sixth, the seventh and the eighth crusades ended in failure. At the end of it all Jerusalem remained in the hands of the Muslims.

Causes of failure

Crusading princes quarrelled with one another and there were no able leaders. The Muslims were stronger than the Crusaders.

Results of the Crusades

As a result of the Crusades, feudalism decayed in Europe; Ship—building industry developed. The Europeans came to have contact with the East and their commerce was promoted. European arts, civilization were enriched. The Crusades gave incentive to the Europeans to discover new lands.

The Legacy of Islam

The Muslims within a short period established an empire larger than that of Rome. Islamic Empire extended from Spain to Central Asia and India. Islam therefore absorbed the best aspects of Greek, Roman, Persian and Indian cultures and evolved a new culture.

The contribution of Islam to the modern world is great. Muslim rulers were good administrators. They had well ordered systems of Government and good schemes of taxation. They restored the old Roman roads and laid new ones. They set up an effective postal system. They built canals and

developed a beautiful style of architecture with domes, arches and minarets. They built stately buildings such as the **Omar Mosque** in **Jerusalem**, the **Omayyad Mosque** in **Damascus**, the **Alhambra** Palace of **Granada**, the Grand **Mosque** at **Baghadad** and **Qutb Minar** in Delhi.

They founded great universities at Baghdad, Cairo and Cordova. Pope **Silvester II** was a student of the Cordova University.

In India Muslim rule brought about some changes in religion. Ramanandar, Kabirdasar, Gurunanak and Chaithaniar started the **Bhakthi movement** in India; they worked for Hindu-Muslim unity. There was synthesis of Hindu and Muslim centres.

Hindi language developed. Urudu was a new creation. **Amir Kushru**, the Persian poet, composed many great poems. The Muslims learnt the Indian numbers and spread them to the whole world.

The Muslims developed trigonometry, chemistry and astronomy. Algebra is their creation. In medicine they made remarkable progress. **Avicenna** who lived between 980 to 1037 was a famous physician. He has written a number of books on medicine.

In literature too, the Arabs have made an important contribution. Their most famous creation **Thousand and one Nights** or **The Arabian Nights** contains many of the most popular stories of all time, such as **Ali Baba and the Forty thieves**, **Sindbad the Sailor** and **Aladdin and the wonderful Lamp**. **Averroes** of Cordova wrote Commentaries on Aristotle in the 12th century.

The Muslims learnt the art of manufacturing paper from the Chinese and introduced it in Europe. They produced beautiful articles out of all metals. They made glass and

pottery. They produced fine fabrics. The Arabs were great explorers and traders. They held great fairs and markets. Many European traders went to the fairs at Baghdad, Bokaro and Samarkhand.

Islam served as a bridge between the Christian West and the Fabulous East. It helped to realise Alexander's idea of uniting the East and the West.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. Mohammad the Prophet was born in ________.
2. The Holy book of Islam is ________.
3. ________ was the greatest of Abbasid Caliphs.
4. Construction of Qutb Minar was started by ________ and completed by ________.
5. Mughal rule in India was the result of the ________ battle.
6. Wars took place between the Christians and the Muslims over the ownership of ________ and those wars were called ________.
7. The Muslims founded Universities at ________, ________ and ________.

II. Complete the statement given hereunder chosing the appropriate answer from among the 4 given

The main reason for the defeat of Christians in the Crusades was the that

1. the Christians did not fight with religious fervour.
2. the Christians had no unity.
3. the Christians came to fight from far away places.
4. the Muslims used better weapons than the Christians.

III. Give brief answers

1. Who were the Caliphs? Name some of the important Caliphs?
2. What is meant by the 'Crusades'?
3. What were the results of the Crusades?

V. **Give long answers**

1. Sketch the life history of Mohammad the Prophet and mention his teachings.
2. What is the legacy of Islam to the modern world ?

Exercise

1. Read the story of 'The Arabian Nights' about Harunal—Rashid.
2. On a world map show the Muslim empire and mark the following Cities. (1) Bagdad, (2) Mecca, (3) Madhina, (4) Damascus, (5) Cairo.

12. CENTRAL ASIA IN THE 13th CENTURY A. D.

Introduction

Several races of people live in all the continents of the world. But Asia was the home of many human races. It is believed that the Steppes of Central Asia was the earliest home of many races. In the beginning people were wandering from place to place. Such were the Mongols, the Tartars and the Huns of Central Asia. They were united into a nation by their leaders who were noted for their determination and courage. The Mongols and the Tartars were united by **Chengiz Khan** who founded an Empire ; the Huns were united by the famous **Attila.**

THE MONGOL EMPIRE

Mongols

The people known as Mongols first made their appearance in History towards the close of the 12th century A. D. They were wandering tribes. In the beginning they

lived in Central Asia. They belonged to the Yellow race. Looking after horses, sheep and oxen, and hunting were their main occupation. They lived in tents and hut-wagons. Their wealth consisted of herds of cattle, clothes and weapons. They lived a simple life. They used to ride on horses and do physical exercises so that they could be strong to lead a life of endurance. As they handled weapons every day they proved to be the best warriors. They were always in search of pastures for their cattle. In Summer they went to the northern part of the land after the melting of snow for pastures and in winter they came back to the South. When their population increased one section went to China and settled in the fertile valleys. Another section went westward and settled in between the Caspian sea and the Ural mountains.

Similar to the Mongols were the Tartars, another wandering race. Both these races had the same customs and manners. It was Chenghiz Khan, the great Mongol leader who united the two races and founded an empire. The early part of the 13th Century was very opportune for the Mongols to establish an empire, as the great Muslim Empire had broken up into a number of separate states fighting with one another. The Chinese Empire was divided into two and was in a state of decline.

Chenghiz Khan (1154 - 1227A. D.)

Chenghiz Khan's original name was Temujine. When he was 13 years old, his father was killed. So he became the chieftain of the Mongols. He united the Mongols and the Tartars, and gave them military training. He captured the city of Karakorum and in 1203 convened a general convention of the many tribes loyal to him. The great Mongol Empire is considered to have commenced from that year.

In 1214 A. D. Chenghiz Khan invaded North China and defeated its ruler, belonging to the Chin dynasty and brought the whole of North China under his rule. Afterwards he sent envoys to the Muslim Empire in the South West but they were killed by the Muslim King. Enraged by this act, Chenghiz Khan with a large cavalry force crossed the Pamirs



Fig. 20. Chenghiz Khan

and entered the territories of the Muslim Empire. Within a short space of time, he captured Kashgar, Bokara and in the end Samarkhand, the Capital of the Muslim Empire. He invaded India at the time of Iltumish the Delhi Sultan. Fortunately, Chenghiz Khan's attention was drawn to Europe

and so he went westward without attacking India. He defeated all the Russian armies in the north of the Caspian Sea.

Chenghiz Khan died in 1227 A. D. At the time of his death his Empire extended from the Pacific Ocean to the river Dnieper in Russia.

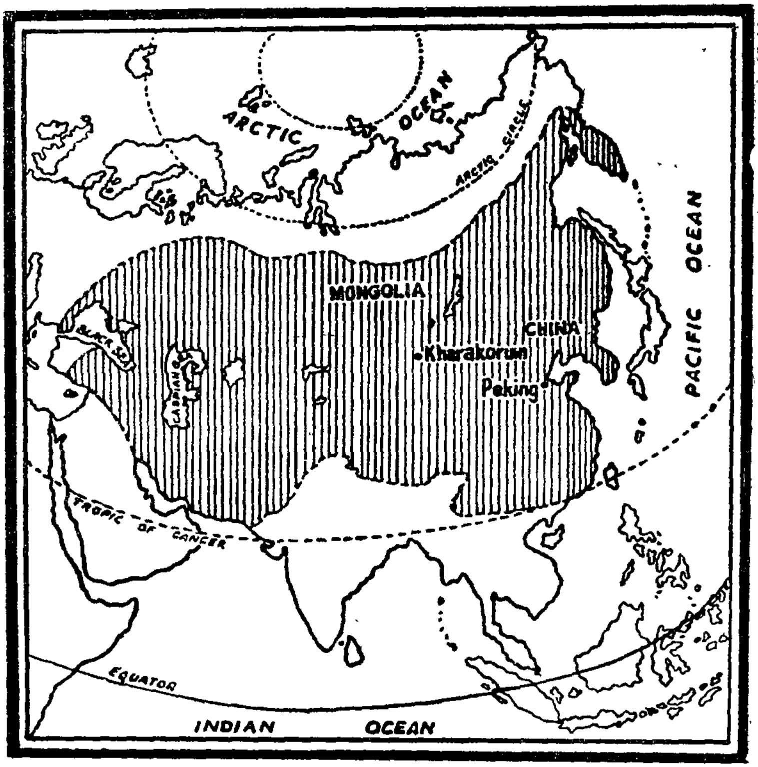


Fig. 21. Chenghiz Khan's Empire

Chenghiz Khan's Empire was vast. Its capital was Karakorum. He had an efficient army. The Mongols had learnt from the Chinese people how to produce guns and gun powder. Guns and gun powder were used in wars. Chenghiz Khan maintained law and order in his Empire and

promoted arts. He set up a postal system in the country. He insisted that all his people should learn to read and write. He treated scholars with respect. He codified the laws. He was tolerant in religion. The Mongols followed the religion known as Shamaism. This was the worship of the everlasting Blue Sky. Only after his death one section of his people followed Islam and another section embraced Buddhism.

Ogdai Khan (1227 - 1242 A.D.)

After the death of Chenghiz Khan, his son Ogdai Khan was elected as his successor. In 1235 Ogdai Khan invaded Russia and forced her to submit to his authority. In 1242 A. D. Ogdai Khan died and disputes arose as to who should succeed him. Hence Europe was saved from further Mongol attacks.

Kublai Khan (1259 - 1294 A.D.)

In 1259 A. D. Kublai Khan, the grandson of Chenghiz Khan was elected as the Great Khan. Following the suggestion of a Chinese scholar, Kublai Khan assumed to title of Yuan and founded the Yuan dynasty. He ruled the Mongol Empire with the titles of 'Khan' which meant chieftain and 'Yuan' which meant the Emperor. He shifted his capital from **Karakorum** to **Peking**. He conquered the whole of China. But he failed to conquer Japan as he had no efficient naval force. South East Asia also recognised his authority. During his reign, **Marco Polo** a traveller from Venice in Italy, visited his Empire. After the death of Kublai Khan in 1294 the Mongol Empire declined.

Travels of Marco Polo

Marco Polo was born in Venice in 1254 A. D. His father was **Nicolo Polo**, a Venetian merchant. When Marco

Polo was young he accompanied his father **Nicolo Polo** and another Venetian gentleman **Maffeo Polo** to China during the reign of Kublai Khan as stated already. The Polos have stated that Emperor Kublai Khan welcomed them warmly, and that he asked them to bring 100 friars with them to China to spread Christianity and that the Emperor gave them a letter addressed to the Pope. As the pope had expired, Marco Polo and the other two Polos obtained a letter from the new pope and started to China with two friars. During the middle of the journey, the friars returned to Italy. So only the Polos reached China.

The Polos presented to Kublai Khan the Pope's letter and presents. The Emperor Kublai Khan's joy knew no bounds to receive the Pope's letter and presents. Marco Polo became a friend of Kublai Khan. He was appointed as governor of a province. He was sent on an official mission to the provinces of Western China and from there he went to the countries of South Asia. He visited Sumatra, Ceylon, and South East coast of India and wrote an account of those countries. When Kulasekara Pandyan was ruling in Madurai, Marco Polo visited him and has given on account of the Pandyan Kingdom. He says that the commerce of the Pandyan kingdom was very prosperous. After staying in China for a period of 17 years the Polos returned to Venice by sea in 1295.

After his return to Venice an account of his travel dictated by him was published with the title, 'The Travels of Marco Polo'. In that book he has mentioned about the wealth, customs and manners of the people of the Eastern countries. This book induced the Europeans to discover new sea routes to the countries of the east. It also helps us to know about the rule of Kublai Khan.

CHINESE INFLUENCE IN JAPAN

In ancient times, different races which had migrated from Asia were living in Japan. The Japanese of to-day are their descendants. The civilization of Japan has evolved from Chinese culture. From the 5th century B. C. onwards the Chinese and the Japanese had close contact. The Japanese reached China through Korea and got education from the Chinese. The Japanese did not slavishly imitate the Chinese civilization. They made their own contribution to the Chinese culture and enriched it.

The people of Japan followed Chinese religion and Philosophy. So Buddhism and Confucianism had great influence in Japan. In the field of education in Japan, the Chinese philosophical ideas had a prominent place. The Japanese arts of sculpture and painting were evolved from those of China. The Japanese learnt from China weaving, paper-making, wood work, and printing etc. Buildings in Japan were built like those in China. Thus in Japan, Chinese influence was seen in all spheres.

SHINTOISM

The old religion of Japan was Shintoism. This is a Chinese word. 'Shinto' means the 'Way of gods'. It is neither a philosophy nor a code of good conduct. It is a kind of personal religion. It is a religion uniting the king and subjects with the bond of loyalty.

In Shintoism, the king of Japan is regarded as a direct descendant and representative of the sun god. So it emphasises absolute loyalty on the part of the people to the Sovereign Emperor. Respect for ancestors, feeling of piety towards the parents and love for children are emphasised. Shintoism was the religion encouraged by the ruling class and patronised by the Emperor.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. The original name of Chenghiz Khan was ________.
2. The capital of Chenghiz Khan's Empire was ________.
3. Marco Polo visited China during the reign of ________.
4. ________ was the old religion of Japan.

II. Give short answers

1. What were the occupations of the Mongols?
2. Mention the victories of Chenghiz Khan.
3. Explain 'Shintoism'.

III. Give long answers

1. Describe the travels of Marco Polo
2. Point out the Chinese influence in Japanese Civilization.

Exercise

Read and enjoy the book, 'The Travels of Marco Polo'.

13. ASIA IN THE 16th AND 17th CENTURIES A. D.

Introduction

The **Modern Age** began in Europe during the 16th Century. Renaissance, Geographical discoveries and Reformation occurred in Europe in the 16th century. Various Nation States also sprang up. But in Asia, Modern Age began in the 18th and 19th centuries. During the 16th century the **Moghuls** in India, the **Ming** and **Manchu** Emperors in China and the **Shoguns** in Japan were the rulers. This was the Mediaeval period of Asian History. We shall study about these empires in the 16th and 17th centuries.

MUGHAL EMPIRE IN INDIA (1526–1707A.D.)

The Arabs captured the province of Sind under the leadership of **Muhammad-Bin-Kasim.** The Turko-Afghans under the leadership of **Muhammad Gazni** and **Ghori** invaded India in the 11th and 12th Centuries. As a result of their invasions, the rule of the Sultans began in Delhi. The Sultanate of Delhi was overthrown by the Mughals who established their rule in India in the 16th Century. **Babar** was the founder of the Mughal dynasty.

Babar (1526–1530 A.D.)

When Babar was ruling Kabul in Afghanistan, some nobles who were against the tyranical rule of **Ibrahim Lodi** at Delhi requested him to invade India. Babar who had been waiting for such an opportunity invaded India and defeated Ibrahim Lodi in 1526, in the **First Battle of Panipat.** In this way Mughal rule began in India. Further, Babar conquered Mewar, Malwa, Bihar and Bengal. He conquered a greater part of northern India and brought it under his control. He died in 1530 A.D. before he had established firmly his rule in India.

After Babar, his son **Humayun** became king but he was not so efficient as Babar. He lost his kingdom to **Sher Khan** and the latter drove him out of India. After 15 years, Humayun regained his lost Kingdom. But he died after a rule of only six months.

Sher Khan who took the title of **Sher Shah** ruled the kingdom which he had won from Humayun for five years. He belonged to the **Sur** dynasty. He was a capable administrator and a great ruler. His reforms in land revenue were followed by Akbar and hence he was the forerunner of Akbar.

Akbar (1556–1605 A.D.)

Akbar became the king when he was only 13 years old. His uncle **Bairam Khan** acted as his guardian and protector. In 1556 Bairam Khan defeated **Hemu** in the **Second Battle of Panipat**. As a result of this, Moghul rule was again established in India. After four years, Akbar ruled the empire by himself. He fought many wars and spread his rule in North India, Kabul and Kandahar. His empire was divided into 15 Subhas.

He knew very well that if his empire should be firmly established, he must get the support of the Hindus, who formed the majority of the people. With this object he abolished Jizya and the pilgrim tax on the Hindus. He gave high appointments to the Hindus. He encouraged Mughal Princes to marry the Rajput girls. He ruled as a National Monarch treating Hindus and Muslims alike.

He founded a new religion called **Din-i-Ilahi** which contained the good principles of the various religions. But it died with him.

Akbar was a great administrator. With the help of his able finance minister, **Raja Todar Mal,** he followed the Ryotwari System of land revenue of Sher Sha and did good for the people. This is similar to the Ryotwari System followed today in India.

He encouraged art. **The Tomb of Humayun** at Delhi and the City of **Fatepur Sikri** near Agra were built during his time. Painting and music were also encouraged by him. He patronised **Mian Tansen**, a great musician. **Abul Fazal** and **Abul Faizi** the two learned brothers were Akbar's friends. Abul Fazal wrote **Akbar Nama** and **Aini Akbari**. Abul Faizi was a great Persian Poet. In his time **Tulsi Das** wrote his famous **Hindi Ramayana**.

Jahangir (1605–1627 A.D.)

After Akbar, his son Jahangir became the Emperor. He gave all the responsibility of his rule to his wife **Nur Jahan.** The English travellers such as **William Hawkins** and **Sir Thomas Roe** visited India during his rule. They obtained permission for the English to trade with India. This helped the British to lay the foundations of their rule in India. **Shah Jahan** became the ruler after Jahangir.

Shah Jahan (1628 – 1658 A.D.)

Shah Jahan's rule was the 'Golden Age of the Mughals'. He was a magnificient builder. The world famous **Taj Mahal** was built by him. It was built in marble. He built it on the banks of the river Yamuna in memory of his wife **Mumtaz.** The **Red Fort** and the **Jumma Masjid** at Delhi were also built by him. The famous **Peacock Throne** full of gems was also built by him. After him, his third son **Aurangazeb** after killing his brothers and imprisoning his father, became the ruler.

Aurangazeb (1658 – 1707 A.D.)

He had strong faith in Islam. He was not tolerant towards the Hindus. He followed a policy different from that of Akbar. He reimposed the unpopular Jizya tax on the Hindus. He did not give high appointments to the Hindus in the Government. Hence, the Hindus hated him. He executed **Tegh Bahadur,** the ninth guru of the Sikhs and earned their hatred. He destroyed the Shiah sultanates of Bijapur and Golconda in the Deccan and annexed them to his empire. He was not able to crush **Shivaji,** the Maratha Chief and the Marathas also became his enemies. As a result the Mughal empire declained after Aurangazeb.

Causes for the decline of the Mughal Empire:

1. The successors of Aurangazeb were weak.
2. Aurangazeb's narrow mindedness and religious intolerances were another cause.
3. Aurangazeb's attempt to crush the Marathas in the Deccan and the annexation of Bijapur and Golconda were mistakes.
4. The wars of succession to the throne weakened the empire.
5. The luxurious life of the Mughal nobles and their rebellions against the Emperors proved to be another cause.
6. The invasions of **Nadir Shah** and **Ahamed Shah Abdali** quickened the decline of the Mughal Empire.
7. Neglect of the navy by the Moghuls and the arrival of the Europeans in India were other causes.

MING AND MANCHU RULE IN CHINA

Ming Dynasty (1368—1644 A.D.)

After Kublai Khan, his dynasty which had been ruling China was overthrown by **Chu-Yuan-Chang**. He became the ruler of China in 1368. The dynasty which he set up was called the Ming Dynast and it ruled China till 1644 A.D. He called himself as **Hung Wu**. He was the son of a labourer. Though he had little education, he had a lot of worldly experience.

As soon as Hung Wu became the ruler of China, he changed China's Capital from Peking in the north to Nanking in the centre. To maintain peace in the country,

he kept with him all powers. He ruled efficiently. After him, his son **Yung Lo** became the Emperor. He was the best among Ming rulers.



Fig. 22. Chu-Yuan-Chang (or) Hung-Wu

The Ming period was a bright period in Chinese history. It was a period of peace. Ming rule spread to Korea, Cambodia, Java and Sumatra. There was friendship with the neighbouring countries. The Chinese navy sailed along the Indian Ocean to the Persian Gulf and returned home Fewer taxes were collected. Roads and canals were improved. Grains were stored during good harvest season to be used during famine. Splendid buildings arose. The porcelain wares of this period were of excellent workmanship.

It was during this period that the Portuguese came to China. At first, they were friendly with the Ming rulers. Soon they misbehaved and so the rulers drove them out of the country. They realised their mistake and behaved properly with the Chinese rulers. They obtained permission to settle down at Canton. The Ming period came to an end in the middle of the 17th century.

Manchu Dynasty (1644–1912 A.D.)

In 1644 the Manchus came to power after overthrowing the Ming rulers. Manchus had lived in Manchuria, the northern region of China. They belonged to the **Tartar** race and were great warriors. Ming rulers appointed them as protectors of north China. The Manchu warriors made use of the inefficiency of the last Ming rulers, removed them and established Manchu rule at Peking. Eventhough they were foreigners, they took into account the interests of the Chinese people and ruled well. They adopted Chinese habits, reduced the tax burden, and got the support of the people. They removed inefficient officials and appointed Chinese in government services. They ruled efficiently for a period of three centuries.

The most famous Manchu rulers were **Kang-Hi-Si**, **Yung-Chung** and **Chien-Lung**. During his rule, Kang-Hi-Si reduced the land tax. He helped agriculture by establishing new waterways. He founded a number of schools. He encouraged literature and science. He built a big palace in the Chinese Capital Peking. He welcomed Christian missionaries.

His successor, Yung Chung did not have cordial relations with the neighbouring countries. He was for the welfare of the Chinese only. He expelled the Christian missionaries who had been encouraged by Kang-Hi-Si. He hated western education and did not show interest in literature and science.

After Yung Chung, Chien Lung ruled China. He extended his empire to Vietnam, Burma and Tibet. During his time, he put down the rebellions in Mongolia and Chinese

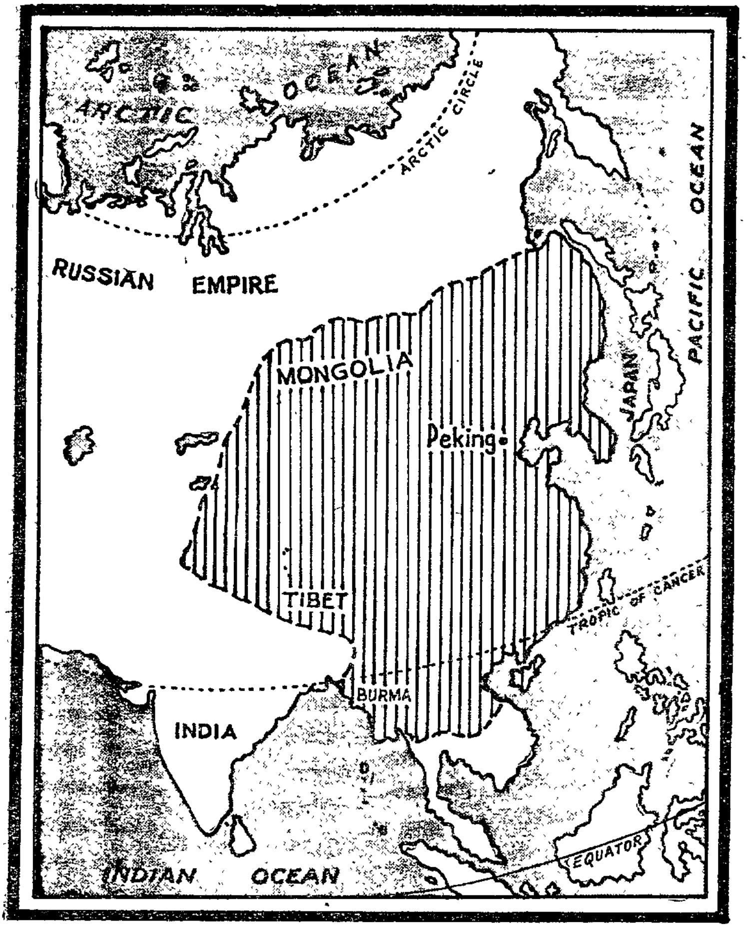


Fig. 23. Manchu Empire

Turkistan. Art and education were improved. He abolished some taxes and did good to the people. After him, the Manchu dynasty declined.

UNIFICATION OF JAPAN

The Japanese studied the Chinese literature and accepted the Chinese civilization. At the same time, they promoted their own civilisation by introducing some progressive ideas of their culture. We have studied in an earlier chapter about the religion of Japan, **Shintoism**.

The Emperor of Japan was called **Mikado.** He was believed to be a representative of the Sun God. Mikado was only a nominal ruler. Real power in Japan was exercised by the great nobles. These great nobles were called as **Damio.** One of the great nobles captured power in 1192. He was called a **Shogun** or **General**. The office of the shogun was hereditary and he ruled Japan. His rule was like that of the Peshwa in India during Maratha rule.

From 1344 to 1573 the **Ashikaga Shoguns** ruled Japan. On one occasion a Shogun named **Ashikaga-take-Uji** removed the Mikado as he disobeyed him and appointed another Mikado. The legitimate Mikado ruled the south and the usurper governed the north and thus the nation was disunited.

The disunited nation was unified by the Shogun named **Nobunaga** at the end of 16th century. He established peace in the country by strengthening the Central government. In 1569 **St. Francis Xavier** visited Japan. He was given encouragement to spread Christianity. Some of the Japanese were converted to the Christian faith. Till the end of the 16th century, all steps were taken to preserve the nation's unity. His successor Hideoshi invaded Korea and captured it. His successor **Tokugawa** adopted a policy of isolationism keeping away from the influence of the west. Within Japan, he put down the power of the nobles. He established a strong government in the country. The Shogun rule continued in Japan till 1867.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. Abdul Fazal wrote______ and ______.
2. The English traveller's who visited Jahangir's reign were ______, ______.
3. The emperor of Japan was called a______.
4. St. Francis Xavier visited Japan during______rule.

II. Give short answers

1. Point out the importance of the First Battle of Panipat.
2. Mention any four buildings built by Shah Jahan.
3. Write a short note on the 'Taj Mahal'.
4. Who founded the Ming Dynasty ?
5. Who were the three important Manchu rulers ?
6. Give an account of the Shogun rule in Japan.

III. Give long answers

1. Point out the special features of Akbar's administration.
2. How did Aurangazeb become unpopular with the non-muslims ?
3. What were the causes for the decline of the Moghul Empire ?
4. Give an account of the unification of Japan.

Exercise

1. Draw maps showing the Empires of Akbar and Aurangazeb.
2. Draw the map of Manchu Empire in China.

14. ASIA IN THE 19th AND 20th CENTURIES

Introduction

From the beginning of the Modern Age, European Nations competed with one another in trading with the fertile countries of Asia. British rule began in India during 18th century. To earn huge profit in opium trade foreigners unlawfully traded with China disobeying Chinese laws. This led to the **Opium wars.** The Western Nations were successful in those wars. They imposed their authority on China. The 18th century was a period of difficulties for Asia. We shall study how the Western Nations established their authority and influence in Asia.

The British in India

The **English East India Company** was formed in 1600 A.D. based on the charter given by Queen Elizabeth I. The company obtained the permission of the Mughal Emperors to set up trading settlements at Surat, Madras, Calcutta and Bombay.

In 1664 the French East India Company was formed by the French Government. The French company set up a trading centre at Pondicherry. Gradually the English and French Companies interfered in the affairs of the Indian States and tried to increase their influence and power.

The important person responsible for the formation of British rule in India was **Robert Clive.** When he joined the English East India Company, there was a war of succession in the carnatic between **Chanda Saheb** and **Anwar-ud-din.** In the same way there was a war of succession in Hyderabad between **Nasser Jung** and **Musaffer Jung.** Musaffer Jung

and Chanda Saheb got the assistance of **Dupleix,** the French Governor of Pondicherry and won. On seeing this, Clive in order to reduce the power of the French, helped their enemies. In the Carnatic war which followed, he captured **Arcot** and made **Mohammed Ali** the son of Anwaruddin as the Nawab of the Carnatic. Afterwards, in the **Battle of Plassey** of 1757 in Bengal, Clive won a victory and made **Mir Jafar** the Nawab of Bengal. Later in the battle of Buxar in 1764, the English were again victorious. At the end of these wars, the **Treaty of Allahabad** was signed in 1765 by which the English got the pcwer of collection of taxes and judicial administration in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. This is known as the **Diwani Right.** The trading company became the ruling company. Then Clive set up the **Double Government** in Bengal. That is, real power was in the hands of the English Company. The officials of the Nawab collected the taxes and administered justice. Thus government was carried on by both the Company and the Nawab.

After Clive, **Warren Hastings** became the Governor General of the Fort William of Bengal and introduced reforms for the welfare of the people of Bengal. He protected the British territories in India from the attacks of the Marattas, Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan.

After warren Hastings, **Cornwallis** became the Governor General. He introduced the Permanent land Revenue Settlement in 1793. Zamindars became land owners. They should give a fixed sum to the Company. In the third Mysore War, he defeated Tippu Sultan and got some territories for the British.

After Cornwallis, **Sir John Shore** became Governor General and in his time the influence of the Marattas

increased, as he followed a policy of non-intervention in the affairs of Indian States.

In 1798 **Wellesley** became the Governor General. He wanted to put an end to the confusion that had prevailed in India and make the British the most powerful ruling community. To achieve his object he introduced the **Subsidiary Systems.** The NIZAM of Hyderabad was the first to accept this system and gave Cudappah, Kurnool, Anantapur and Bellary districs to the British. These were called as **Ceded Districts.** In the same way, the Nawab of Oudh and the Maratta Chiefs such as the Peshwa, Bhonsale, Scindia accepted the system. Tippu Sultan objected to this system and the Fourth Mysore war began. In this war Tippu was defeated and killed. Mysore was handed over to the old Hindu Prince. Wellesley formed the Madras Presidency out of the Ceded districts and the territories obtained from the Mysore wars.

It was during the Governor Generalships of Lord Hastings the Bombay Presidency was turned out of the Maratha Kingdom.

In 1828 **Lord Bentinck** became the Governor General. He introduced a number of reforms during his time. He abolished **Sati** in particular. Further he put down the gang of robbers known as the **Thugs.** He was the first Governor General of all the company possession in India.

In 1848 **Lord Dalhousie** became the Governor General and brought the remaining unconquered regions of India under British rule. Among them the Punjab, South Burma or Lower Burma and oudh were important. He laid down the **Doctrine of Lapse** to annex Indian states whose rulers had no children. **Satara, Jhansi** and **Nagpur** were thus annexed to

the British Empire in India. Thus by 1857 A.D. the whole of India came under the British rule. But the establishment of British rule was opposed by most of the Indian Princes. This led to the first war of Indian independence.

He introduced various reforms for the welfare of the people, such as the railways, post and telegraphs and public works.

The Dutch in the East Indies (Indonesia)

In 1602 the **Dutch East India Company** was formed and it captured **Amboyna** in East Indies from the Portuguese. Later the Dutch captured **Jakarta** and **Malacca.** The fertility of the islands helped Dutch trade. The Dutch could not compete with the British in India and so they concentrated their attention more on the East Indies.

In 1623 at Amboyna a number of Englishmen and Japanese were killed by the Dutch. This incident known as the **'Amboyna Massacre'** made the English leave the East Indies and concentrate their attention on India. This made the Dutch remain in the East Indies without a rival.

The Dutch made the Sultans rule the East Indies in name, but had all powers in their hands. They did not pay the slightest attention to the welfare of the natives but only cared for their trade. When the spice trade declined, they cultivated coffee and earned profits. They gave meagre wages to the peasants of the land and earned enormous profits.

The French in Indo-China

The French were defeated by the British in their attempt to establish their power in India. Hence they paid more attention to Indo-China. Indo-China consists of **Tonkin, Annam, Cochin China, Cambodia (Kampuchea)** and **Laos.**

In the first three regions Chinese culture prevailed and in the last two there was the influence of the Indian culture. In 19th century, the French captured the various parts of Indo-china. Due to a treaty between China and Indo-China. French rule in Indo-China was recognised by China.

The French made use of the rich resources of Indo-China such as rice, zinc, tin and coal for their trade. There were no welfare measures for the natives. The French made arrangements to improve the communications between Indo-China and China.

The Americans in the Phillippines

The **Phillippines** which lie in the Pacific Ocean, south of Formosa, is a cluster of about 7000 islands, full of forests, mountains and volcanoes. It was discovered in 1521 by **Magellan** in the time of Charles V of Spain and was named after Philip, the son of Charles V. Till 1898 these islands were ruled by Spain. In that year, U.S.A. waged a war with Spain and defeated it and captured these islands. The people revolted against American rule, but it was put down. The Americans made use of these islands to have complete control and influence in the Pacific Ocean. They built rail roads and roads and set up factories and schools in these islands.

The rise of Japan

Till 1853 Japan lived in isolation, without having any contacts and relations with other nations. This is called the **Closed Door Policy.** America and the European Nations wanted to break Japan's isolation. They wanted to have trade with Japan. In 1853 A.D. **Commodore Perry** with four American Warships arrived in Japan, gave a lot of presents to the Emperor and sought permission to use the Japanese ports.

He wanted a favourable reply within one year's time. The Shogun who was the real ruler of Japan could not come to a quick decision. He thought of the after-effects of permitting foreigners to trade with Japan. At the end, the Shogun opened two Japanese ports to America. Britain also got similar rights like America. Thus the Shogun was responsible for Japan's trade contacts with many European Nations. Shogun's policy was not liked by the Japanese.

The foreigners who settled in Japan not only paid attention to trade but also interfered in religious matters. They spread over the whole of Japan and got many more rights. This alarmed the Japanese. They did not like the Shogun who was responsible for permitting foreigners to trade with their country. They united together and wanted to take away all the powers from the Shogun. They wanted also to strengthen Japan. In 1868, the Shogun rule was abolished and all the powers were given to the Mikado. This is called the **Meiji Restoration**. The **Reign of Mutsuhito** from 1868–1912 is known as the **Meiji Era**. The Japanese gave full respect to the Mikado and considered him as a representative of God on earth. Patriotism and loyalty to the Emperor were associated with religion and it is known as **Shintoism**.

During the Meiji Era, various reforms were introduced. Feudalism was abolished and the power of nobles was reduced. A Parliament was set up by the people. The navy was reorganised with the help of the British and the army with the assistance of the Germans. Compulsory education was introduced. Young Japanese were sent to foreign universities and learnt the technical skills. They set up various factories when they returned to Japan. Further new factories were established with the help of the foreign

technical experts. New methods were introduced even in the field of agriculture. Thus Japan became a progressive nation in the world within a quarter of a century.

BOXER MOVEMENT IN CHINA

The Europeans entered China as traders during Manchu rule. The Chinese government refused to give all the concessions sought by the British traders. The Chinese government took stern action against the illegal opium trade which was carried on by the English. This resulted in the outbreak of the **First Opium War.** This war came to an end in 1842 with the **Nanking Treaty.** According to it, China gave **Hong Kong** island to Britain, and trade rights in five more ports. This treaty gave dissatisfaction to the Chinese. There were frequent quarrels between the foreign traders and the Chinese. This resulted in the **Second Opium War** in 1856. In that war France joined with the British and both attacked China. The war came to an end in 1861 with the **Tienstien Treaty.** According to it, opium import was legalised and the foreigners were permitted to trade in many more ports. They got the right to spread Christianity. The foreign ambassadors were permitted to stay in the capital, Peking. The Europeans who settled in China were to be governed by their own laws and not by the laws of China. In the treaty ports of Canton, Shanghai etc. the laws of the Europeans were in force. These Chinese ports were known as petty European States or Mini European States. The Europeans lived there enjoying full liberty.

Japan which became strong due to the Meiji Restoration took advantage of the weakness of China. Japan attacked **Korea** which was under the control of China. Hence began the **Sino-Japanese War** (1894—95). In this war Japan got many successes. In the end the **Shimonoseki Treaty** was

signed and according to it, Japan got **Formosa Island** and **Liao-Tung Peninsula** from China. Later due to Russian

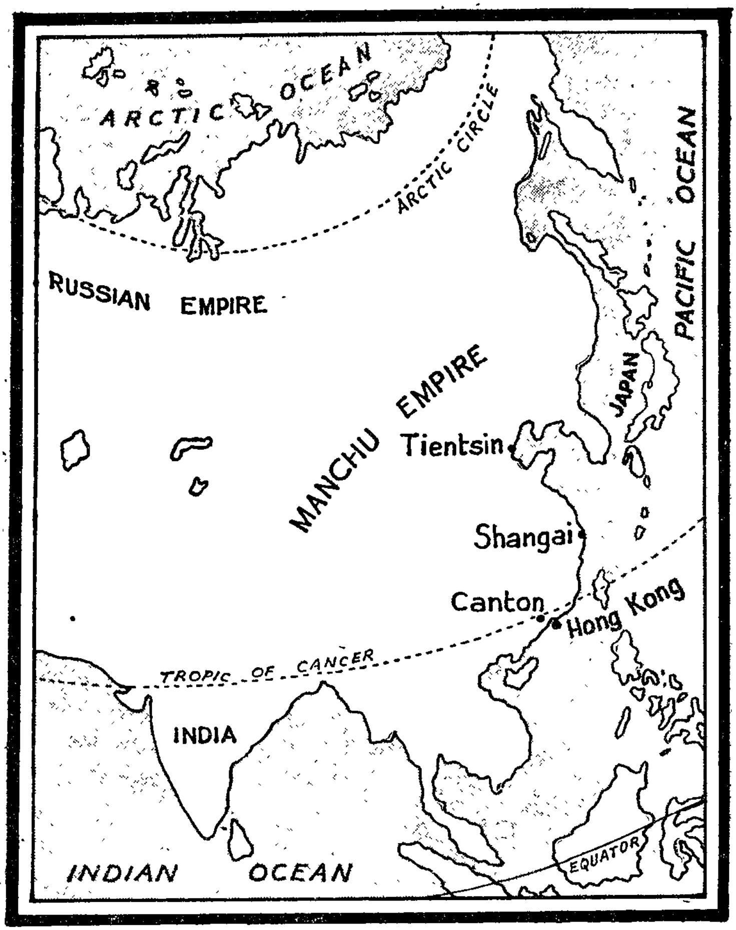


Fig. 24. Treaty Ports in China

interference, China got back Liao Tung Peninsula and in turn gave a huge sum towards compensation to Japan.

The patriotic Chinese hated the influence of Europeans and started the movement known as the **Boxer Movement** (1899-1900) They rose in revolt and wanted to drive the foreigners away. The Chinese Empress, **Tzu-Hsi** encouraged the Boxer rebellion. She encouraged the rebels to kill the foreigners and to seize their properties. Accordingly, many foreigners were killed. The foreigners sought the help of their respective governments. Hence Japan, America, Russia, Britain and Germany sent their troops to China and put down the rebellion. The Chinese government accepted all the humiliating conditions laid down by the victorious foreigners.

Russo - Japanese War (1904–05)

Japan got Liao Tung Peninsula by the treaty signed at the end of Sino-Japanese war of 1894-95. Later due to Russian interference, Germany and France compelled Japan to give back to China the Liao-Tung Peninsula and Port Arthur. Japan gave back those regions to China. Japan thought that this was due to Russia and hated her. Meanwhile, Russia captured Port Arthur from China and banned the entry of foreign ships. Further Russia occupied Manchuria, the northern region of China. On seeing this Japan signed a treaty with Britain in 1902. The **Anglo-Japanese Treaty** provided for mutual help, during times of war.

Russia constructed the Trans-Siberian railway up to port Arthur. Japan opposed this and wanted Russia to meet some of her demands. On Russia's refusal, the Russo-Japanese war began.

In this war, Japan, a small nation, defeated Russia in various places both on land and sea. In particular, the

Russian Navy was defeated by Japan at **Tshushima straits.** The fame of Japan increased. Japan captured Port Arthur. Russia sued for peace. Due to the efforts of the American President, **Theodore Roosevelt, the Treaty of Ports-mouth** was signed in 1905. According to it Japan got Liao Tung Peninsula. China got back Manchuria. Both Japan and Russia cleared out of that province. The war checked the growth of Russian power in the East and made Japan a World Power.

Nationalism in India

British rule and knowledge of English language, were some of the causes for the growth of nationalism in India. The British conquered the whole of India, united the country and established a stable government for the whole country. Hence unity was promoted. The spread of English education helped the Indians know about the revolutions in Europe and America, Independence movements and Parliamentary form of Government.

In the 19th century many socio-religious reform movements occurred in India. Indian culture was badly affected owing to foreign rule. To protect Indian culture and to remove its defects, many socio-religious reformers such as **Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Dayanand Saraswathi, Eswara Chandra Vidya Sagar, Rama Krishna Paramahamsa and Vivekananda** brought about many social reforms and awakened the people to work for the freedom of our country and the revival of our culture.

Indians who gained political knowledge wanted to establish a responsible Government in India. In 1885, the **Indian National Congress** was founded thanks to the efforts

of **A.O. Hume, William Vetterbun** and **Dadhabai Naoraji.** This organisation aimed to get freedom gradually from the British. Further, it had other aims such as representation of Indians in legislatures and government services, reduction of military expenses and expenditure on essential services. National freedom fighters like **Tilak, Gokhale, Banerjee** and **Dadhabai Naoraji** helped the growth of National feeling among Indians.

Curzon's partition of Bengal was the cause for the starting of the **Indian Swadeshi Movement** in 1905. Due to this, V.O. Chidambaram Pillai started the Indian Steam Navigation Company at Tuticorin. This movement helped the growth of many Industries. To satisfy the national feeling, the **Minto-Morley Reforms** were introduced in 1909. The Reforms gave the Indians more representation in legislatures. Muslims were given separate constituencies.

Chinese Revolutions (1911 A.D.)

The Modern Age for China began in the 20th Century. Some Chinese teachers who received education, spread revolutionary ideas and created Modern China. The inefficient administration of the Manchu rulers, the tax burden on the people to compensate the losses incurred in the Sino-Japanese war of 1894-95, and natural calamities such as famine and floods were the causes for the outbreak of the Chinese Revolution. **Dr. Sun-Yat-Sen** was a leader of the revolution. He wanted to replace the Manchu Government by a republician Government. At the end of the internal war which lasted three months in China, a Republic was established in 1912. and Dr. **Sun-Yat-Sen** was elected as the first President of China. His three important principles were **Nationalism, Democracy** and **Socialism.** A rival group was

formed in China against Dr. Sen and there was confusion in the country. To preserve unity Dr. Sun-Yat-Sen resigned his post and made **Yuan-Shi-Keh** as the President. Yuan gave concessions again to foreigners and hence he could not rule efficiently. There were frequent quarrels between him and the Parliament. Yuan died in 1916. Then **Tuchuns** or **War-lords** with their private armies fought with one another. No permanent government was set up in the capital Peking. Thus Chinese Revolution was a failure, for it did not succeed in establishing a stable Republician Government for the whole of China.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. ________ laid the foundation for British Rule in India.
2. The Battle of Plassey took place in ________.
3. The main reform of Lord Cornwallis was ________.
4. ________ introduced the Subsidiary System.
5. The Indian National Congress was formed in the year ________
6. The first Chinese President was ________.

II. Give short answers

1. Give an account of Amboyna Massacre.
2. Write short notes on Dutch Rule in Indonesia.
3. Who discovered the Phillippines Islands? Why is this land so called,?
4. Give an account of the Meiji Era.
5. What is meant by 'Opium War' ?
6. Write a short note on 'Boxer Rebellion'

III. Give long answers

1. Describe the Russo—Japanese War.
2. Explain the initial growth of the National Movement in India.
3. Give an account of the Chinese Revolution of 1911.

Exercise

1. Collect and paste the Pictures of the Indian Freedom Leaders.
2. Draw the map of India showing the British possesion in 1857.

15. ASIA IN THE 19th AND 20th CENTURIES (Contd)

Introduction

We have seen that the important event of the 19th century was the establishment of European and American rule in some parts of Asia. The 20th Century is credited with great developments in various fields such as Science, Economics, Politics etc. It is in this century that two World Wars took place and brought about many changes. We shall study in this lesson about the First World War and its effects.

THE FIRST WORLD WAR (1914 – 1918)

Causes

1. The first and foremost cause for the First World War was the ambition of Germany. The German Emperor, **Kaiser William II**, who ascended the throne in 1888 wanted to make Germany a strong power in Europe; he also wanted to set up colonies like Britain and France for the industrial and commercial prosperity of Germany. So he enlarged and

modernised the army. Even though Germany had no long sea coast, he created a strong fleet on modern lines. Britain was alarmed at this and regarded German's navy building as being aimed against her.

Before William II became the Kaiser, **Bismarck** in 1882 had concluded a **Triple Alliance** consisting of Germany, Austria and Italy. Against this was made in 1892, a **Dual Alliance** between France and Russia.

Britain, realising that the ambition and strength of Germany would cause danger to her, made an agreement with France known as the **Entente Cordiale** in 1904. In 1907 Russia was allowed to join with Britain and France and this agreement came to be known as **Triple Entente.** Thus Europe was divided into two camps, the **Triple Alliance** and the **Triple Entente.** The competition and jealousy between these two groups sowed the seed for the First World War.

2. The net cause for the war was the competition between Austria and Serbia in the Balkan Peninsula. Austria, annexed Bosnia and Herzegovina in the Balkans. This was not liked by Serbia. Russia also did not like Austria becoming powerful in the Balkans. Hence Russia supported Serbia. It resulted in tension in the Balkans.

3. The immediate cause for the out break of the War was the murder of the Arch Duke Charles, the crown Prince of Austria and his wife at **Serajevo,** the capital of Bosnia by a Serbian lad in June 1914. Austria charged the Government of Serbia as having connection with the murder and prescribed some conditions for Serbia to fulfil. As Serbia declined to accept the conditions, Austria declared war on Serbia. Russia entered the war in support of Serbia. Austria's ally, Germany declared war on Russia. France joined with Russia and fought against Germany. As Germany invaded

Belgium which was a neutral country, in its attempt to attack France, Britain declared war on Germany in order to protect the rights of Belgium. Turkey and Bulgaria joined with Germany.

Italy, one of the members of the Triple Alliance did not join with Germany and Austria in this War. In the course of the war, Italy joined with Britain and France in 1915. Towards the close of the war, America joined with Britain. Those who joined with Britain were called the **Allies** and those who joined with Germany were called the **Central Powers.**

On 11th November, 1918 Germany surrendered. Kaiser William II abdicated and fled to Holland. The war came to an end. A treaty was concluded at Versailles in 1919.

Results

1. The War resulted in great loss of human lives and property.
2. The Empires of Germany, Austria and Turkey disappeared.
3. To promote international peace and to prevent wars in future a League of Nations war set up.
4. The frontiers of European countries were refixed and new countries like Czecho-Slovakia and Poland arose. Serbia was enlarged and came to be known as **Yugoslavia.**

The Peace Conference at Versailles (1919)

The Peace Conference met at Versailles in 1919 to draw up conditions of peace. **Woodrow Wilson,** the President of the United States of America, **Clemenceau,** the Prime Minister of France, **Lloyd George,** the Prime Minister of

Great Brittain and Orlando the representative of Italy, were the influential persons in the Conference. The two principles of democracy and nationalism were accepted in the Peace Treaties. Poland and Czechoslovakia were created as new states and they were granted freedom. **Yugoslavia** was created from out of Serbia. Severe conditions were imposed on the defeated countries. The victorious countries got new territories and new concessions. The League of Nations was set up.

Break-Up of the Turkish Empire

The victorious Allies made the Treaty of **Sevres** in 1920 with Turkey. The terms were harsh. According to the treaty the Turkish Empire was broken up. A strip of territory round Constantinople was placed under international control ; Arabia became an independent country ; Syria, Palestine and Iraq became Mandated states. The League of Nations entrusted the administration of Syria to France and the administration of Iraq and Palestine to Britain.

The Treaty of Sevres was not accepted by the Turkish Nationalists led by **Mustapha Kemal Pasha.** Thanks to his efforts, the treaty was revised at **Lausanne** in 1923. By the Treaty of Lausanne Turkey lost all territories inhabited by non-Turkish races (that is Arabs); Constantinople was given back to Turkey. But Kemal Pasha made **Angora** in Asia Minor, the capital of the new Turkish Republic.

The Khilafat Movement in India

The Sultan of Turkey was regarded as the Caliph or the Khalifa or the religious leader by the Muslims. The Indian Muslims protested against the injustice done to the Sultan of Turkey by the Treaty of Sevres. In 1920 the Indian Muslims started a movement to bring pressure upon the British Government to restore the territories to the Sultan of

Turkey. It was known as the **Khilafat Movement.** The two brothers **Muhammad Ali** and **Shaukat Ali** were the leaders of the movement.

Mahatma Gandhi, the leader of the Indian National Congress gave full support to the Khilafat Movement. He felt that the Muslim demand for the Khilafat was just. Further he hoped that his support to the Khilafat Movement would promote Hindu Muslim unity and secure the co-operation of the Muslims for his Non Co-operation Movement. But in 1922 the Turkish Monarchy and Khilafat were abolished by the Turkish people themselves. Turkey became a Republic. When the Turks themselves abolished the Caliphate, there was no justification for continuing the Khilafat agitation in India. The Khilafat Movement was given up.

Mustafa Kemal Pasha (1881—1938) and the Turkish Republic

From the capture of Constantinople by the Turks in 1453, there had been in the Balkans, the Turkish or **Ottoman Empire.** The Turkish Sultan of Constantinople had been regarded as the Caliph or religious leader of Islam. His Empire consisted of Palestine, Syria, Egypt, Arabia and the Balkans. We have learnt that the Turkish Empire broke up at the end of the World War I. Turkey which had become weak was called the 'Sickman of Europe' by the European Countries. After the First World War it was Mustafa Kemal Pasha who revived Turkey and made it into a strong power.

Mustafa Kemal was born in 1881 at Salonica. His father was a Customs Officer. He joined a Millitary College and learnt warfare. He was credited with the title of **Kemal** by his teacher who admired his skill in mathematics. The Arab word 'Kemal' means 'achieving greatness'. In 1907

Kemal joined the Turkish Army. When Turkey waged a war with Italy, Kemal fought with the Italians bravely and rose to the position of a Colonel.

In the First World War Turkey was an ally of Germany. Kemal was the head of the army at Dardanelles. He defeated the British navy and army which wanted to capture Constantinople. In appreciation of the unique service the Turkish Government rewarded him with the post of Commander-in-chief and the title of **Pasha**.

The Turkish people were grieved very much at the defeat of Turkey in the First World War. They hated the incapable Sultan. Taking advantage of the situation, Mustafa Kemal founded the **Nationalist Party**. He expelled a Greek army which attacked **Smyrna** in Asia Minor. He became popular. He deposed the Sultan and abolished monarchy and the Caliphate. Kemal, as a leader of the Nationalist Party proclaimed Turkey a Republic. He became her first President. He made Angora in Asia Minor the capital of Modern or New Turkey. New Turkey was made a Secular State. He forced the European Powers to revise the Treaty of Sevres at Lausanne about which we have already learnt.

Mustafa Kemal Pasha implemented many reforms to improve the social and economic conditions of the people. He abolished the superstitions and old manners of the people. He emphasised equality between man and woman. Veil or Purdah was abolished in Turkey. Women were allowed to appear in public places. He encouraged women's education. Men were asked to wear European dress and hat. Growing the beard and wearing the Fez Cap were forbidden. Poets and writers were asked to produce their works on modern themes. Latin alphabets were substituted for Arab alphabets. Judicial system was reorganised on Western lines. New

methods of agriculture were introduced. Commerce flourished. Good roads were laid to improve transport facilities. Large scale industries such as Iron and Steel industry, Weaving industry etc. were developed. Labour Acts were enacted for the benefit of the workers.

Mustafa Kemal Pasha who thus strove for the progress of his state was awarded the title of **Ataturk** (The father of the country) by the people of Turkey. He died in 1938.

Saudi Arabia

Arabia was formerly a part of the Turkish Empire of Constantinople. At the end of the First World War, Arabia became free. It was, **Iban Saudi** who united the whole of Arabia. So it came to be known as Saudi Arabia. The independent states in the Arabian Peninsula are **Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Bahrein, Kuwait** and **Oman.** These states are rich in oil.

Iraq

Iraq is the modern name for Mesopotamia. Many civilizations originated in this land in ancient times. It was under Turkish rule. The majority of its people are Arabs. At the end of the First World War, Iraq became a Mandatory state entrusted to Britain. In 1921 Emir Faizel became the king of Iraq as per the wishes of the people. In 1927 Britain accepted its independence. In 1932 Iraq became a member of the League of Nations. Many political changes have been taking place since 1932. Today it is a republic. Iraq has rich oil wealth.

Syria

The Republic of Syria lies on the Mediterranean sea coast in the South East part of Asia Minor. It formed part of the Turkish Empire before the First World War. At the

end of the War it became a Mandate State under France. In 1944 Syria got full independence and became a Republic. When the United Arab Republic was formed in 1958, Syria joined with Egypt and later left the union. Many Political changes have taken place in Syria as in Iraq. Today it is a republic. Most of its people are Arabs. Syria too has rich oil wealth.

Palestine

We have studied in the 9th lesson that the Jews who had been living in Palestine since early times were driven away by the Romans in the second century B.C. and that the incident is known in history as **Diaspora** or **Dispersion** After Diaspora, Palestine has been a part of the Roman Empire for some centuries. In the 8th century B.C. Palestine came under Muslim rule. It was then that the Crusades took place. Until the close of the First World War Palestine was within the Turkish Empire. At the end of the First World War, Palestine became a Mandate state under Britain.

The Jews who had been dispersed to various countries had a longing to return to their homeland, Palestine. So they started the **Zionist Movement** towards the close of the 19th century. 'Zion' is another name of Jerusalem. It was on the mountain of Zion, that the great King of the Jews, Solomon had built a temple. So the aim of the Zionist Movement was to settle the Jews scattered all over the world in Palestine and convert it into a Jewish State.

When the First World War was taking place, Dr. Cheim Weizmann, a Jew, was serving as Professor of Chemistry in the University of Manchester in England in 1916. His invention of a chemical substance helped the Allies to win the war. So he had great influence with the British Government. Due to his efforts, Balfour, the Foreign Secretary of England

submitted his famous declaration to the British Government on 2nd November 1917. In **Balfour's Declaration** it was stated that the Jews might settle in Palestine and set up their national state there and that the British Government would give them all help. The Arabs declined to accept the Balfour Declaration.

After the Balfour Declaration the Jews from various parts of the World began to settle in Palestine. The World Zionist Federation, United States of America and England joined together and helped the Jews to settle in Palestine. The Jews, driven by Hitler from Germany also came to live in Palestine. The neighbouring Arab states got alarmed by the immigration of the Jews into Palestine in large numbers. They began to attack the Jews. In 1939 when the Second World War broke out the Arab-Jewish conflicts stopped. After the war was over, conflict between the Arabs and the Jews was resumed. But the Jews overcame the Arab attacks very successfully. At the end of the First World War, Palestine was a Mandate State under British rule ; but at the end of the Second World War, with the help of the United Nations Organisation, a State for the Jews called **Israel** was set up in Palestine. The new state came into being on the 15th May 1948. Its capital was West Jerusalem. East Jerusalem and the State of Jordan were given to the Arabs. Jordan is a monarchy while Israel is a Republic. The first President of the State of Israel was Dr. Chain Weizmann.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. The Treaty of Paris was concluded at ________ after the First World War.
2. The leaders of the Khilafat Movement were ________, ________.
3. 'The Sick man of Europe' was ________.

4. The modern name for Mesopotamia is ______
5. Palestine was divided into ______ and ______.

II. **Give short answers**

1. What was the immedaite cause for the outbreak of the First World War ?
2. Why did Mahatma Gandhi support the Khilafat Movement ?
3. Pointout the services of Kemal Pasha for the uplift of women.
4. Name the chief states of the Arabian Peninsula.
5. Explain 'Balfour Declaration'

III. **Give long answers**

1. Enumerate the causes and effects of the First World War
2. Describe the achievements of Mustafa Kemal Pasha.
3. How did the Jews come to have a state of their own?

16. ASIA TODAY

Introduction

The Second World War has made all the countries of the world realise the fact, that if another World War occurs in future, the entire World would perish. Further, the independent spirit and the national feeling which were promoted by the First World War were still further advanced by the second World War. As a result, the Asian and African countries which were under foreign rule began to get freedom. Today, the Asian Countries being fully independent of foreign rule are making progress in various fields.

THE SECOND WORLD WAR (1939–1945) AND ITS EFFECTS

Twenty years after the close of the First World War, the Second World war broke out. It was in many respects more cruel and more horrible than the First World War.

Causes of the War

The Peace Treaty of Versailles made at the end of the First World War was the main cause for the outbreak of the Second World War. We have seen that the terms and oondi-tions imposed up on the defeated countries in the treaty were harsh. As a result of the treaty, Germany was deprived of her Colonies ; her army and navy were reduced; East Prussia was separated from West Prussia and in between the two, Poland became powerful. Germany was asked to pay an im-possible sum for damage done by her troops. Besides, the economic condition of Germany was badly affected by the World wide economic depression. Under such circumstances **Adolf Hiter**, a man of humble origin rose to prominence. He stimulated national and racial spirit among the people of Germany. He asked them to shatter the Treaty of Versailles which had humilitated them. People supported him. With their support Hitler became the Dictator of Germany in 1934. He broke the Treaty of Versailles. He attempted to unite-all German speaking people and make Germany a strong power. The party founded by him to carry out his programme was known as the **Nazi Party**.

In Italy and Japan also similar developments took place. Earlier than Hitler, Mussolini, the Dictator of Italy, had founded the Fascist Party in 1922. It was strongly nationalistic and aimed at making Italy the strongest Power in the Mediterranean.

Like Germany and Italy, Japan wanted to become a Power in Asia. In 1931 Japan captured Manchuria from China. In 1936 Italy invaded Abyssinia in Africa and annexed it to her Empire. The League of Nations did not take any action against such aggressive activities. Naturally, those countries indulged in more and more aggression.

Sometime later, Germany, Italy and Japan resigned from the League of Nations. They formed an alliance known as The **Rome-Berlin, Tokyo-Axis.**

In 1938 Germany annexed Austria. In the same year, Hitler took possession of Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia where the mojority of the people were Germans. In 1939 he captured the remaining portions of Czechoslovakia and attacked Poland.

On the 3rd September 1939, Great Britain and France which had been tolerating Hitler's aggressions, declared war on Germany. In 1940 Italy entered the war on behalf of Germany. In 1941 Russia entered the war against Germany. Towards the close of the year 1941 Japan fought on the side of Germany and the United States of America joined with Britain and France. China too joined with Britain. Great Britain, France, the United States of America and China were known as **Allies** and Germany, Italy and Japan were called the **Axis Powers.**

In the beginning the Axis Countries got many victories. But in the end, Italy in 1943 and Germany in 1945 surrendered. Mussolini and Hitler were killed. Japan continued the war alone. But when the American forces bombarded with atom bombs the two industrial cities of Japan, namely **Hiroshima** and **Nagasaki** in 1945, Japan surrendered and the war came to an end.

The Allies got victory in the war due to the efforts of the American President **Franklin Roosevelt,** the British Prime Minister **Winston Churchill** and the Russian Dictator **Joseph Stalin.**

Effects

1. Hitler's Nazi Party in Germany and Mussolini's Fascist Party in Italy were dissolved.
2. The imperial policy of the European countries was given up. Asian and African countries got freedom.
3. The United Nations Organisation was formed to prevent wars and promote international peace.
4. Britain and France lost their authority and influence in the World where as Russia and the United States of America became powerful countries.
5. Communism spread in Eastern Europe and in China.

FREE STATES OF ASIA AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR

India

We have studied in the 14th lesson about the growth of Nationalism in India. We have already learnt in the VIIIth Standard about the freedom struggle under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi in India.

After the close of the Second World War, the Labour Party assumed power in England. Its leader and the Prime Minister of England, **Atlee,** decided to grant freedom to India. So he appointed **Lord Mountbatten** as Viceroy and

sent him to India to arrange for India's freedom. He evolved a plan. India was to be divided into **Pakistan** consisting of the territories where majority of the people were Muslims and the **Indian Union** constituting the

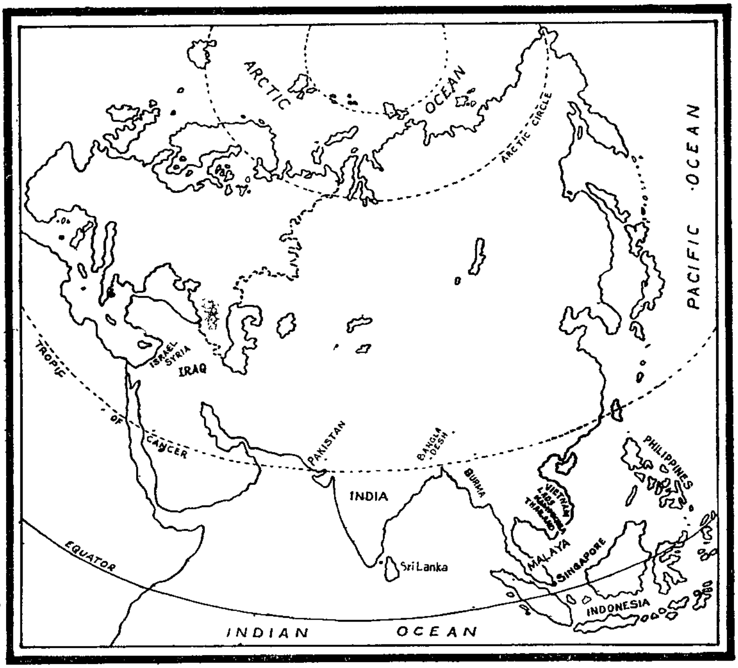


Fig. 25. .Free States of Asia after the Second World War

remaining portion of India. The Plan was accepted by the Indian National Congress and the Muslim League. Indian Independence Act was passed by the British Parliament. Pakistan on the 14th August and India on the 15th August 1947, became free.

Pandit **Jawaharlal Nehru** became the first Prime Minister of free India and Lord Mountbattan was Governor General of Free India. In June 1948, Thiru **C. Rajagopala Chariar** succeeded Mountbatten as the first Indian Governor General. **Sardar Vallabhai Patel** united more than 600 Indian states into the Indian Union and hence he got the title of **Indian Bismarck**. The constituent Assembly, headed by **Dr. Babu Rajendra Prasad**, prepared a constitution suitable for India. The Constitution came into force on 26th January 1950 and India became a Republic. Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected as our first President. India is a member of the British Common-wealth and a member of the United Nations Organisation. India has not joined any Power Block and follows the policy of neutrality in foreign affairs. India endeavours to maintain World peace. She is making progress in various fields.

After Jawaharlal Nehru, **Lal Bahadur Sastry**, Tmt. **Indira Gandhi**, **Morarjee Desai**, and **Charan Singh** became Prime Ministers of India. In the General Election held in January 1980, the congress party of Tmt. **Indira Gandhi** won and she again became the Prime Minister of India.

Pakistan – Bangaladesh

As stated already India was divided into Pakistan and Indian Union according to the Indian Independence Act. The new state of Pakistan was formed on the 14th August, 1947. West Pakistan consisted of Sind, West Punjab, North West Frontier Province and Baluchistan. East Pakistan had East Bengal. **Mohammad Ali Jinnah** became the first Governor general of Pakistan. Pakistan was declared an **Islamic Republic.** In October, 1958 General **Iskander Mirza** set aside the constitution and set up a Military rule. He

was succeeded by General Ayub Khan and Gen. Yahaya Khan.

In the first election during the rule of Yahaya Khan held in December 1970, the **National Awami League** led by **Sheik Mujubir Rehman,** an East pakistani, secured an absolute majority. But Yahaya Khan and the leaders of West pakistan were reluctant to hand over power to Mujubir Rehman, a leader from East Pakistan. So the new assembly was not summoned. 'Reign of terror' was let loose on East Pakistan. Mujubir Rehman opposed it and declared East Pakistan as an independent state known as **Bangala Desh** on 17th April 1971 and became its President. West Pakistan carried on a war with Bangala Desh. India went to the help of Bangala Desh. The Pakistan Army surrendered to the Indian Army. The defeated Yahaya Khan was dismissed from office. Bangala Desh became independent. The new President of Pakistan was Bhutto. In 1977 Gen. Zia-Ul-Haque captured power and set up military rule in Pakistan. He impiisoned Bhutto and later hanged him on a charge of murder.

Sheik Mujibur Rehman who became the first President of Bangaladesh was killed in 1975 in armed rebelion. Gen. Zia-Ur-Rehman became the President of Bangala Desh. Recently Zia was killed by some army generals.

Sri Lanka

When Sri Lanka was under the British rule, the people of Sri Lanka carried on an agitation for freedom. At the end of the Second World War, Sri Lanka was granted Dominion Status. In 1972, according to a new constitution adopted by the.people, Sri Lanka became a Republic, with a Parliamentary type of democracy. In February 1978, it was

changed into the Presidential type. **J. R. Jayawardene** became the President of Sri Lanka Republic.

Burma

At the beginning of the 20th century, Burma was a province of India in the British Empire. According to the Government of India Act of 1935, Burma was separated from India. During the Second World War, the **Thakin Party** which demanded full independence for Burma supported the Japanese against the British. Burma was captured by the Japanese Army and a puppet Govenment was set up. In 1944 the war turned in favour of the Allies and the Japanese were driven out of Burma. The Burmese people who were disappointed with the Japanese welcomed the British. At the end of the war, Burma got independence. **Thakin Nu** became the Prime Minister of Burma. There arose a revolt against the rule of Thakin Nu. Thakin Nu was removed and General **Newin** set up military rule.

Indonesia

During the Second World War, in 1942, Japan conquered Indonesia which was under Dutch rule. Japan permitted the Nationalists who had been already opposing the Dutch rule, to establish a Government. Japan was content with getting raw materials from Indonesia. When the Japanese surrendered in August 1945, the Dutch sent troops to Indonesia to reimpose their rule. The Nationalist Government fought against the Dutch.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister of India summoned an **Asian Conference** at Delhi in 1948 under the chairmanship of **Mrs. Sarojini Naidu** to give support to Indonesians and to condemn the Dutch imperialistic attitude. Other Countries also Condemned the Dutch action. Under

the auspices of the U. N. O. negotiations were carried on. In the end on December 27, 1949 freedom was granted to Indonesia. A New Constitution was framed. **Dr. Sukarno** became the first president of the Republic of Indonesia and **Mohammad Hatta** its first Prime Minister. Dr. Sukarno, convened a conference of Afro-Asian nations in 1955 at **Bandung.** It was there that pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's **Pancha Shila** doctrine was accepted.

Dr. Sukarno's rule was dictatorial. In December 1956 Hatta resigned his office. Martial law was proclaimed Nation's economy was ruined. The people began to dislike the Government. Under such Circumstances **General Suharto** on March 28, 1968 ooterthrew Dr. Sukarno, captured power and became the Head of the Military Administration.

Malaysia – Singapore

Malaya was under British rule. Though the British gave good government to the people of Malaya, they took away all its natural resources. The people of Malaya were Malays, Chinese and Indians.

During the Second World War, Japan conquered Malaya, The Japanese permitted the Malayans to have their rule in certain spheres. So nationalism arose in Malaya. When Japan surrendered in 1945 and the British returned to Malaya they could understand the nationalism of the Malayas. They allowed the Malayas some freedom.

In the General Elections of 1955 an **Alliance Party** composed of Malay, Indian and Chinese groups got a majority. A Ministry under the leadership of **Tungku Abdur Rahman** was formed. It pressed for full independence to Malaya. In response to that demand, Britain gave freedom to Malaya on 31, August 1957. Malaya gained admission

into the U. N. O. and signed a defence and mutual assistance treaty with Britain. Singapore was made a separate State. In 1963 an enlarged Federation known as **Malaysia** was set up and it included **Malay, Singapore, Sabah** or **North Borneo** and **Sarawak.** But on August 9, 1965 Singapore left the federation and became an independent Republic. Singapore has made good progress under the Prime Ministership of **Lee Kuan Yew.**

The capital of Malaysia is **Kualalumpur.** The majority of the people of Malaysia are Malays: Chinese and Indians are also living there. Islam is the religion of most of the people. The Malaysian Government rules the country consisting of the people with different races and different religions very well following the policy of religious toleration.

The Philippines

The Portugnese explorer, **Ferdinand Magellan** discovered the Philippines during his travel round the world in the 16th century. It was so called after the name of **Philip,** the Prince of Spain. It remained under Spanish rule till the end of the 19th century. Catholic religion and Western Civilization spread over the islands. Towards the end of the 19th century the Philippines came under the rule of the United States of America as a result of a war between the U. S. A. and Spain.

Nationalism grew strong in Philippines and the Americans understood the growing national spirit. In 1934 a law was passed and the Commonwealth of Philippines was set up. It was a first step for granting full independence. The Commonwealth functioned for 6 years. During the Second World war, Japan conquered the Philippines but at the end of the war, the U. S. A. got it back. In 1946 the United

States of America granted independence to the Philippines which became a Republic.

Korea

At the beginning of the 20th Century, Korea was under Japanese rule. After the Second world war, Korea was divided into two. The land north of the 38° parallel of latitude was called North Korea and South of it was known as South Korea. Russia had influence over North Korea and the U. S. A. had influence over South Korea.

In June 1950, when the North Korean army entered South Korea, the Korean war broke out. The security council of U. N. O. sent a U. N. O. Force under American Commander-in-chief, **General Mac Arthur** to prevent the Korean war from becoming a world war. Mac Arthur drove away the North Korean forces. The war ended and on July 27, 1953 the Peace Treaty was made. 38° of North Latitude was fixed as frontier for the two Koreas. The Capital of South Korea is **Seoul** and the Capital of North Korea is **Pyongyang**. Attempts are made to unite the two Koreas.

Israel

We have studied in the previous lesson how the two States Israel and Jordan were formed in Palestine at the end of the Second World War. The Arab States did not recognise Israel and they had been fighting with it since then. In June, 1967 the Arab troops under **Nasser**, the President of Egypt, waged war with Israel. It lasted for 6 days, and Israel won. Israel captured some parts of Egypt and Syria, and East Jerusalem and made it impossible for Egypt to use the Suez canal. The Arab States which had lost many of their territories declared war on Israel in 1973 to recover them. The war ended after two weeks. Attempts are being made

to promote peace but the Arab states other than Egypt are not taking part in the peace talks.

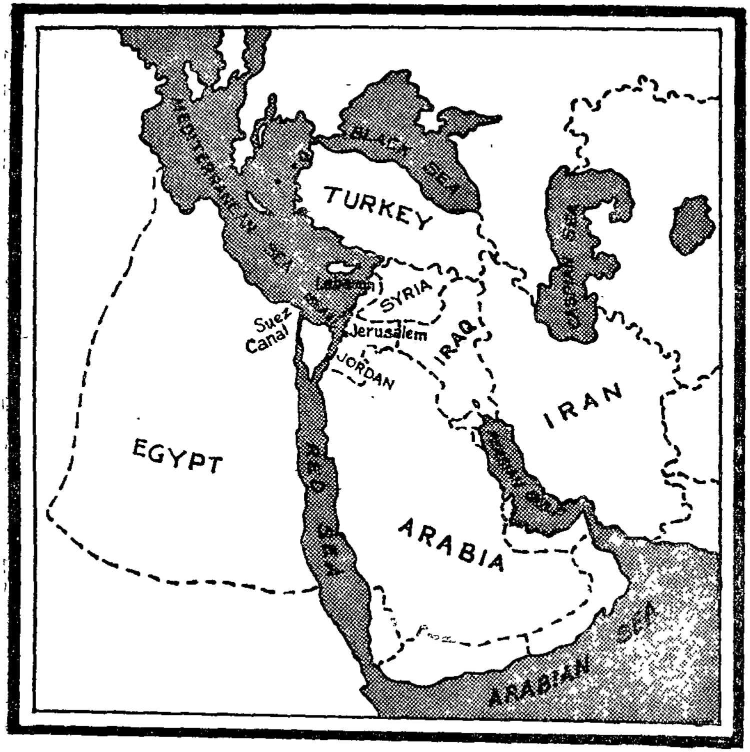


Fig. 26. Israel and her Neighbours

The Arab States which surround Israel are Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt and Arabia. Among these Egypt is the only State which is having peace talks with Israel. Other Arab States declare that unless Israel gives back to them the territories which she had captured in the war of 1967 from them, they are not for peace. So the Arab-Israel conflict continues.

CIVIL WAR IN CHINA

Peoples Government Of China

We have studied that war lords were ruling some parts of China and that a Revoluntary Government set up by the Kuomintang party of Dr. Sun-Yat-Sen was ruling from Canton in South China. There was no unity in the Country. Dr. Sun Yat Sen sought the help of Russia to unite China. Russia agreed to help. But she wanted to bring the Kuomintang under the control of the Communist Party.

Dr. Sun Yat Sen died in 1925. On his death, the husband of his wife's sister, **Chiang Kai Sheik** became the leader of the Kuomintang. Dr. Sun Yat Sen had admitted Communists into the Kuomintang but Chiang kai Sheik was a conservative. He hated the Communists and expelled them from the Kuomintang Party. Those communists under the leadership of **Mao Tse-tung** and **Chou Enlai** formed a separate party known as the **Communist Party of China** (C.P.C.) with head quarters at **Kiangsi** in South China.

In 1934 the Communists under Mao Tse-tung and Chou Enlai set off from Juichin in South China on a long journey over a distance of 7200 K.M. and reached the province of **Shensi** in North China in 1935. This is described as the famous **Long March**. They made Yenan as the headquarters of the Communist Party. The Kuomintang and the C.P.C. were fighting with one another.

During the Sino-Japanese War from 1937 to 1941, both Kuomintang and the Communist Party joined together and opposed Japan. Taking advantage of the war, Mao increased the influence of his party.

The Communist Party of China formed the Government at Yenan in the province of Shensi in North China. - The

communists had their own army, schools, universities etc., The lands under their control were entrusted to the tillers of the soil. So it was the party of peasants.

When the Sino-Japanese War merged into the Second World War, both the parties began to attack Japan in their own way. At the close of the Second World War, Chiang Kai Sheik, the leader of the Kuomintang Party and Mao Tse-tung, the leader of the Communist party of China fought for the mastery of China. In that Civil war, Mao Tse tung and Chou Enlai got victory after victory. They drove Chiang Kai Sheik out of China. Chiang fled to the island of Taiwan (Farmosa) and set up a nominal Government with the support of America. The whole of China came under the rule of the Communists. On October 1, 1949 the Peoples' Republic was set up under the leadership of Mao Tse tung and Chou Enlai.

Thus as a result of the Civil war the two Chinas came into being-the Peoples' Republic of the Mainland of China and a Nationalist China in the island of Taiwan or Formosa.

India and other neutral countries have been recognising Communist China or the Peoples' Republic of China from the beginning. America and other Capitalistic countries recognised the National Government at Taiwan as the Government of China. In course of time they also changed their views. Due to the efforts of countries like India, the Peoples' Republic of China was admitted in the U.N.O in October 1971. China is now one of the Permanent Members of the Security Council of U.N.O. After the death of Chou Enlai and Mao Tse-tung, there arose many changes in the Communist party. At present the party is functioning under the Collective Leadership of some important leaders.

Taiwan (Formosa)

Taiwan is formerly known as Formosa. During the Sino-Japanese war (1894-1985), Taiwan was captured by Japan. But after the close of the Second World War, it was given back to China. As already stated Chiang Kai Sheik who was driven out of China by the Communists established a National Government at Taiwan. It had American support. For a long time, it was Taiwan that was considered as China and it had been a member of U.N.O. But when the Peoples' Repulic of China was admitted in the U.N.O. Taiwan lost its membership.

Vietnam War

Vietnam is a part of Indo-China. It was under French rule in the 17th Century. Due to the influence of the French Revolution Nationalism arose in Vietnam. After the First Word War nationalism in Vietnam was suppressed by the French Government. When France was defeated in the Second World War, nationalism in Vietnam gathered strength. An organisation known as the **Vietnam Independance League** or **Vietminh** was **formed by** Dr. Ho Chi Minh, a Communist.

The Vietminh of Ho Chi Minh established its authority in Vietnam after the surrender of Japan in 1945. But France set up a puppet government at **Saigon** in South Vietnam. The Vietminh opposed that Government. Dr. Ho Chi Minh agitated for the full independence of Vietnam. He set up the Vietnam Republic and it was recognised by the People's Government of China and Soviet Russia.

A conference was held at Geneva in 1954 by which Vietnam was divided into two parts, nemely Vietnam north of the 17th Parallel and Vietnam south of it. Ho's Republic was at Hanoi in North Vietnam; there was French supported Government at Saigon in South Vietnam. Later South Vietnam Government was supported by America. It was

also agreed that South and North Vietnam should be united after holding elections.

Dr. Ho Chi Minh became the President of the Republic of North Vietnam. It made progress in various fields. After his death the administration was under Collective Leadership of other leaders. South Vietnam lacked good administration. There arose a national movement against the Government in South Vietnam. The National movement was led a party called Viet Cong party. In course of time Viet Cong became strong. As Viet Cong grew stronger, the United States of America interfered in South Vietnam. Troops were sent from U.S.A. to protect South Vietnam. So many thousands of Vietnamese soldiers lost their lives for the sake of their country's freedom. In the end, the American forces withdrew and South Vietnam Government had to fight alone against Viet Cong. Viet Cong captured Saigon, the Capital of S. Vietnam and set up a revolutionary Government. Later both South Vietnam and North Vietnam were united. Vietnam at present is one of the strongest powers in Asia. Its capital is Ho chioninh city

Japan's Miracle

Japan is a mountainous country. It is a land of volcanoes and earthquakes. It has poor mineral wealth. The land suitable for cultivation is small in area. Such a country suffered great losses in the Second World War. Atom bombs caused terrible damage to Japan. It lost its Empire. It was thought that it would take a long time for its recovery. But within a short period Japan has made a remarkable progress in various fields to the great surprise of the people of all other countries. Such growth is described as 'Japanese Miracle'.

We may point out the following reasons for the quick recovery of Japan.

1. Japan got assistance from U.S.A.

2. Japanese people work hard to make the country prosperous.

3. The people of Japan possess technical knowldege.

4. Japan's defence is the responsibility of the U.S.A. so all resources are fully utilised for economic development.

Many reforms were introduced in agriculture after the war. The real peasants were made the owners of the land. Due to intensive method of cultivation agriculture developed. Japanese Method of Cultivation is still considered to be the best one. Progress in manufacturing industry was eqully rapid.

The people of Japan work for long hours getting comparatively lower wages for the sake of their country's progress. Hence the prices of Japanese articles are cheaper in World Market and exports increase. Industrial progress is therefore remarkable.

Japan has thus become the third insustrial power in the world next to U.S.A. and Soviet Russia.

The Population Explosion in Asia

About 75 per cent of the World population live in Asia which has an area of a bout 4,630, 664 Sq. K. M. China in Asia is the most populated country. Next comes India in population. India's population according to the Census of 1981 is about 700 millions.

The very high population of Asia is due to several factors. As Asia is considered to be the original home of human races and Civilisations, its population is the highest. The climate, fertile valleys, transport facilities, etc. have

also contributed to the high density of pupulation. Asians are prevented from emigration by ' White Australian Policy' and racial discrimination.

Educational and Science have developed in Asia. Hence the people of Asia realise the evils of a high density of population and they adopt methods to check population growth. There is no doubt that Asia would become the greatest continent, great in every way, in the future.

Questions

I. Fill in the blanks

1. Hitler's Party was ____________ and Mussolini's Party, was __________ .
2. 'Indian Bismarck' was__________.
3. Burma was separated from India by the Act of ________.
4. It was ________ who founded Kuomintang party.
5. The leaders of the Conimunist party of China were __________ and __________.
6. Dr. Ho Chi Minh founded __________party.
7. __________was the party which fought against America in South Vietnam.

II. Give brief answers

1. Mention two of the effects of the Second World War.
2. How did Sri Lanka became independent ?
3. Write short note on the 'Korean War'.
4. What was the reason for Vietnam War ?

III. Give Long answers

1. What are the causes of the Second World War ?
2. How did Indonesia become a Republic ?
3. Describe Vietnam War.
4. Explain 'Japanese Miracle.'

Practical Activity

In a map of Asia, name the countries which got freedom after the World War II.

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